JOHN BULL.

"FOR GOD, THE SOVEREIGN, AND THE PEOPLE!"

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This Evening, at 8.30, CINDER-ELLEN UP TOO LATE. Miss E. James and Mr. Fred Leslie. At 7.40, QUEEN STREET

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This Evening, at 8.45, WALKER, LONDON. Mr. J. L. Toole and Miss Mary Brough. At 7.45, DAISY'S ESCAPE. Mr. J. Billington and Miss Poole.

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This Evening, at 8.15, MIDSUMMER DAY; at 9, LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN. Mr. George Alexander and Mr. Nutcombe Gould; Miss Fanny Coleman and Miss Marion Terry

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This Evening, at 9, THE PRIVATE SECRETARY. Mr. W. S. Penley, Mr. W. F. Hawtrey, Mr. Robb Harwood, Mr. Sam Sothern, Mr. Harold Constable, Mr. W. Ayrton, Mr G. Tomkins; Miss Nina Boucicault, Miss Violet Armbruster, Miss G. Ewell, Miss Alice Yorke, Miss Caroline Elton. At 8.15, THE HOME COMING.

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This Evening at 8.15, LA STATUE DU COMMANDEUR. Preceded at 8.10 by DID YOU RING? MM. Tarride, Berquet, Renoux, Albany, and V. Comyns; Mdlles. Chassi and Lidal.

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This Evening, at 8.45, A PAIR OF SPECTACLES. Mr. John Hare, Messrs. Groves, E. Cathcart, Harding, Brough, Ashford, Rock, W. H. Cathcart; Mesdames Fraser, Middleton, and Kate Rorke. At 8, MY DAUGHTER, Miss Moodie, Mr. Paint.

STRAND THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.30, NIOBE (ALL SMILES). Messrs. Harry Paulton, Fortes Dawson, Herbert Ross, George Hawtrey, A. C. Mackenzie; Misses Beatrice Lamb, Isabel Ellinson, Venie Bennett, Eleanor May, G. Esmond, I. Goldsmith, and C. Berkel. At 8, NO CREDIT. Misses Esmond, Bennett; Mr. Hawtrey, &c.

TERRY'S THEATRE.

This Evening, at 9, THE NOBLE ART. Messrs. Arthur Williams, H. Reeves Smith, Julian Cross, Sydney Valentine, W. Cheesman, Mansfield, and Mr. Ellis Norwood; Mesdames Blanche Horlock, Leechman, Goodchild, Ethel Norton. At 8.15, CHALK AND CHEESE. Mesdames Norton, Irving, and Ellis Norwood.

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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, JULY 9.

THE BOROUGH ELECTIONS.

The results of the Borough Elections are in general accordance with the anticipations of careful political observers. It was thoroughly understood that the Unionist party would suffer grave losses both in London and in the small English provincial boroughs. In London the Unionists have lost thirteen seats and have gained one, and the result in Deptford is not yet declared, so that there is thus far a net loss of twelve seats. In the English provinces the Conservatives have lost twenty-two seats, and have gained ten, and have thus lost twelve seats on the whole. A loss by the Government of twenty-four seats in the English towns is approximately what was expected by the shrewdest students of the electoral position. In Ireland, thus far, the Unionists have gained two or three seats—in the city of Dublin, in the county of Dublin and in Londonderry—precisely as was anticipated; in Wales and Scotland one or two successes have been achieved, and a few more may be counted upon. But isolated victories or defeats in Scotland, Wales, or Ireland, will scarcely serve to affect the features of the main struggle. It depends upon the English counties whether Mr. GLADSTONE returns to power, and the agricultural labourer holds the key to the position. The state of parties now is almost precisely the same as it was at the simliar crisis in the General Election of 1885. Then, as now, the borough elections resulted in a distinct advantage to the Tories. But the county eletions ended in a complete rout of the Conservative party, and gave Mr. GLADSTONE his famous majority in the House of Commons. It remains to be seen whether the General Election of this year will follow the same course as that of 1885, and whether the vote of confidence that London and the English boroughs have accorded to Lord SALISBURY'S Government will be followed by the wholesale defection of the English counties. London and the English Universities and the English boroughs have returned 136 Unionists and 94 followers of Mr. GLADSTONE.

One of the striking incidents of the contests of the past week has been the return of a Conservative at the top of the poll at Newcastle-on-Tyne by a majority of 3,000 votes over Mr. JOHN MORLEY. That the cause of Home Rule should meet with this signal reverse in the person of one of its most prominent supporters is of no slight significance. It is equally significant that in Newcastle itself the Newcastle programme fails to secure a majority of the electorate. Scarely less significant and equally satisfactory to the Conservative party is the defeat of Mr. RITCHIE in St. George's-in-the-East. Mr. RITCHIE has come to be regarded as the chief representative in the Cabinet of the Radicalism that is wholly obnoxious to the majority of Conservatives, and that his ostentatious professions of Radical principles have only ended in his defeat in his old constituency is a really cheerful result. The exultation openly and generally expressed in the great London Conservative clubs when the news of Mr. RITCHIE'S defeat arrived was caused, to a great extent, by the belief that to the policy of democratic county councils for London and the provinces which Mr. RITCHIE stood sponsor for, it is in no small degree due that the Conservatives have sustained signal reverses in the metropolis, and are likely to meet with crushing defeat in the counties. Sir HORACE DAVEY is the only other politician of official rank who has lost his seat thus far, and Sir HORACE DAVEY'S exceptionally unfortunate experiences of elections are perhaps in part to be attributed to the utter absence in this eminent lawyer of the qualities that win popular sympathy. Few other notable members of the last House of Commons have thus far succumbed in the struggle. Sir CHARLES HALL is better known in society than in politics. Mr. BAUMANN, quite the ablest of the younger Conservatives, would apparently have done better to stay in Peckham rather than proceed to Salford. Mr. FORREST FULTON has lost the seat which he held by a precarious tenure at West Ham, but, no doubt, will soon be elected in some other constituency. Mr. HENEAGE has met the ordinary fate of Liberal Unionists and been rejected by Great Grimsby, but it cannot be said that he will be missed in the new Parliament. A notable new member is elected in the person of Mr. NAOROJI, the Radical Parsee. Some surprise may possibly be felt that the Radicals of Finsbury consider that they are best represented by a gentleman, who, whatever his ability, must fail to be in sympathy with the sentiments and thoughts of an English community. Of far greater significance is the return of three representatives of Socialism, such as Mr. JOHN BURNS, Mr. J. H. WILSON, and Mr. KEIR-HARDIE, to the House of Commons. They will have the opportunity of making known their views to far wider audiences than they have hitherto succeeded in obtaining. The opinions they maintain are likely to repel far more than attract. Wide publicity and keen discussion are not likely to advance the interests of the cause they advocate.

One of the most striking characteristics of the present elections so far as they have gone is the largeness of the polls, which is certainly not altogether in accordance with ordinary anticipations. In almost all the boroughs a great increase in the gross polls over those of six years ago is to be noted. The remarkable increase, too, in the number of registered electors in the borough constituencies is to be remarked, which is considerably in excess of what may be attributed to the ordinary growth of the population. The explanation doubtless is that on both sides no trouble has been spared to place every qualified elector on the register. The result will be that the present General Election will be decided by an exceptionally large popular vote.

THE END OF AN IMPOSTURE.

What the final result of the General Election now in progress may be is still a matter of conjecture. But the returns of the first four days' polling suffice to show pretty conclusively the way things are going. The course of the Elections so far accords with the anticipations expressed in these columns for many months past. There is no possibility of explaining away the fact that the Government has failed to hold its own. The Unionist majority has been largely reduced, and is steadily dwindling, and there is no prospect, so far as we can see, of that process being arrested. Of course it is perfectly true that the Separatists have met with some great disappointments. For all their bounce and braggadocio they have, in various instances, utterly failed to justify their confident prophecies. The Unionists can point also to several striking and even brilliant success. But, after all said and done, the unpleasant truth still remains that the Government has lost far more ground than it has gained, and it would require some courage to predict, and no less credulity to believe, that in the end Lord SALISBURY and his colleagues will find themselves able to continue in office. The English county elections that have still to be decided are so far an unknown factor in the situation that it is impossible to say to what precise extent they will further weaken the Government and strengthen the Opposition. But one thing is practically certain. Nothing that may now happen can make up for the losses already sustained by the Ministerialists. Not even the most sanguine among them dares look forward to the return of a working Unionist majority. We shall see, later on, whether their rivals can secure a sufficient preponderence in the new House of Commons to take office. At the present moment the best that the Unionists can hope for is an evenly balanced result; and it must be admitted that, in such a case, "bad is the best."

Supposing that things should turn out no worse than this for the Government—which is, under the circumstances, supposing a good deal—the broad result will be that the great Unionist majority of 1886 has melted away in 1892. The explanation of so remarkable a phenomenon is not far to seek, however. The Conservative Leaders came into office six years ago under great advantages. Those advantages have been recklessly squandered. Called to power at a moment when Radicalism was utterly discredited, Lord SALISBURY'S Administration enjoyed an unequalled opportunity of rallying all the conservative forces in the country. The course dictated alike by duty and by prudence was clear. Good government and efficient administration were required: not heroic measures of legislation. In some respects—notably in the conduct of foreign affairs and the strengthening of the national defences—the Government proved equal to their responsibilities. But this was not the full extent of the task they were called upon to perform. Treason and sedition in Ireland should have been sternly repressed. The gross inequalities of an electoral system that confers an undue amount of Parliamentary representation on the Celtic population of these islands should have been remedied. In both of these respects the Government has notoriously failed in its duty. It is true that outward tranquillity has been restored to Ireland. The murders, the outrages, the boycotting, by which the rule of the National League was upheld have ceased. But the snake of Treason has only been scotched, not killed. It still rears its head aloft, and the elements of disorder exist at the present time in unabated vigour, ready to assert themselves on the first convenient occasion. Meanwhile the negligence of the Government in redressing the monstrous grievance under which England labours, owing to the disproportionate amount of Parliamentary representation enjoyed by Ireland, is bearing its fruit in the triumph of the Separatist faction, to which it will have, in no small degree, contributed.

To these grave sins of omission the Government has, during its six years' career, added sins of commission neither few nor unimportant. It was announced at the outset that the two Unionist parties—the Liberals and the Conservatives—while combining together to defend the integrity of the United Kingdom, would each maintain its own independence. Each was interested in upholding the Union, and neither was to demand any sacrifice of principle from the other. That was an honourable understanding, but it has not been adhered to. The larger and more powerful of the two Unionist parties has been forced to accept its policy from the weaker and less numerous. How Lord SALISBURY has submitted to the dictation of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN; how, Session after Session, the Government has accepted fresh doctrines of predatory Radicalism and plunged deeper into the sea of Socialistic vagaries—all this is matter of history. The result shows that honesty is the best policy, after all. The politicians who, deserting their own principles and flouting their own friends, thought to gain the favour of the democracy by trying to outbid their Radical opponents in offering a policy of social revolution, have discovered to their cost that an intrigue of that kind simply does not pay. That is the lesson of the General Election, and all who value the political integrity of our public men must agree that it is a very wholesome and much-needed one.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

THE ELECTION RETURNS.

The elections throughout the country decided up to Thursday give the following results?—

Conservatives	163	186
Liberal Unionists...	23	
Gladstonians	124	141
Anti-Parnellites	13	
Parnellite	4	
Total returned	327	—
Unionist majority		45

	Total seats.	Unionists. C	Unionists. LU	Separatists. G	Separatists. AP	Separatists. P	To Poll.
England (465 seats):							
London	62	34	2	25	—	—	1
Boroughs ...	164	83	12	68	1	—	—
Counties ...	234	26	—	9	—	—	219
Universities ...	5	4	1	—	—	—	—
Wales (30 seats):							
Boroughs ...	11	—	—	3	—	—	6
Counties ...	19	2	—	3	—	—	16
Scotland (72 seats):							
Burghs	31	2	3	14	—	—	12
Counties ...	39	—	—	2	—	—	36
Universities ...	2	2	1	—	—	—	—
Ireland (103 seats):							
Boroughs ...	16	4	2	—	6	4	5
Counties	85	6	—	—	6	—	71
Universities ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
	670	141	19	117	10	1	382

The following table shows the comparative gains at present:—

Unionist.		Gladstonian.	
Nottingham, W. ...	1	West Ham, N. ...	1
Rochester	1	West Ham, S. ...	1
York	1	Boston	1
St. Pancras, W. ...	1	Bradford, E.	1
Barrow-in-Furness ...	1	Durham	1
Scarborough	1	Hereford	1
Stockton-on-Tees ...	1	Lincoln	1
Wolverhampton, W....	1	Reading	1
Perth	1	Stafford	1
Walsall	1	Stockport	1
Wednesbury	1	Greenock	1
Glasgow—Camlachie	1	Islington, W.... ...	1
Belfast, W.	1	Lambeth, N.	1
Edinburgh, W. ...	1	Bristol, N.	1
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	1	Newcastle-under-Lyme	1
Dublin (St. Stephen's)	1	Whitehaven	1
Montgomeryshire ...	1	Yarmouth	1
Dublin (South) ...	1	Grimsby	1
Derry (City)	1	Devonport	2
		Oldham	2
		Portsmouth	2
		Salford, N.	1
		Finsbury, Central ...	1
		Newington, W. ...	1
		Walworth	1
		Bermondsey	1
		Camberwell, N. ...	1
		Kensington, N. ...	1
		St. George's-in-the East	1
		Limehouse	1
		Bow and Bromley ...	1
		Hull, E.	1
		Monmouth District ...	1
		Cambridgeshire (W.)	1
		Wiltshire (Cricklade)	1
		Somerset (North) ...	1
	19		39

THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

The new Parliament, as far the results are yet known, is constituted as follows:—

C, Conservative; U, Unionist; G, Gladstonite; P, Parnellite; AP, Anti-Parnellite; Lab. Labour; * Old Member.

THE METROPOLIS.

CITY OF LONDON (2)—*Sir R. Hanson, C, Alban Gibbs, C
BATTERSEA—J. Burns, Lab
BERMONDSEY—S. Barrow, G
BETHNAL GREEN, S.W.—*E. H. Pickersgill, G
,, N.E.—*G. Howell, G
BOW AND BROMLEY—J. M. Macdonald, G
BRIXTON—*Marquis Carmarthen, C
CAMBERWELL—E. H. Bayley, G
CHELSEA—*C. A. Whitmore, C
CLAPHAM—P. Thornton, C
CROYDON—*Hon. S. Herbert, C
DEPTFORD—Undecided.
DULWICH—*J. Blundell Maple, C
FINSBURY, East—*J. Rowlands, G
,, Central—D. Naoroji, G
FULHAM—*W. H. Fisher, C
GREENWICH—*T. W. Boord, C
HACKNEY, South—*Sir C. Russell, G
,, North—W. R. Bousfield, C
,, Central—Sir Andrew Scoble, C
HAGGERSTON—*W. R. Cremer, G
HAMPSTEAD—*Brodie Hoare, C
HAMMERSMITH—*General Goldsworthy, C
HOLBORN—*Gainsford Bruce, C
HOXTON—*Professor Stuart, G
ISLINGTON, North—*G. C. T. Bartley, C
,, South—*Sir A. K. Rollit, C
,, East—B. L. Cohen, C
,, West—T. Lough, G
KENNINGTON—*M. Beaufoy, G
KENSINGTON, S.—*Sir A. Borthwick, C
,, North—F. C. Frye, G
LAMBETH, North—J. Coldwells, G
LEWISHAM—*J. Penn, C
LIMEHOUSE—J. S. Wallace, G
MARYLEBONE, E.—*R. Boulnois, C
,, West—*Seager Hunt, C
MILE END—*S. Charrington, C
NEWINGTON—Capt. Norton, G
NORWOOD—C. E. Tritton, C
PADDINGTON, N.—*J. Aird, C
,, South—*Lord R. Churchill, C
ST. PANCRAS, N.—*T. H. Bolton, G
,, South—*Sir J. Goldsmid, U
,, East—*R. G. Webster, C
,, West—H. R. Graham, C
PECKHAM—F. G. Banbury, C
POPLAR—*S. Buxton, G
ROTHERHITHE—C. Macdona, C
STRAND—*Frederick Smith, C
SOUTHWARK, West—*R. K. Causton, G
STEPNEY—*F. Wootton Isaacson, C
ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER-SQUARE—*G. J. Goschen, C
ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST—J. W. Benn, G
WALWORTH—W. Saunders, G
WANDSWORTH—*H. Kimber, C
WESTMINSTER—*W. Burdett-Coutts, C
WEST HAM, North—A. Grove, G
,, South—J. K. Hardie, Lab
WHITECHAPEL—*S. Montagu, G
WOOLWICH—*E. Hughes, C

There are 62 London seats, the Conservatives now hold 34, the Liberal Unionists 2, the Gladstonians 25, and one, Deptford, is still undecided.

THE PROVINCIAL BOROUGHS.

ASHTON—*J. B. Addison, C
ASTON MANOR—*Captain G. Hutchinson, C
BATH (2)—Colonel Murray, C, *E. R. Wodehouse, U
BEDFORD—*S. Whitbread, G
BARROW—B. W. Cayzer, U
BIRKENHEAD—Viscount Bury, C
BIRMINGHAM, Mid—*J. A. Bright, U
,, North—*Alderman W. Kenrick, U
,, South—Alderman P. Williams, U
,, East—*H. Matthews, C
,, West—*J. Chamberlain, U
,, Edgbaston—*G. Dixon, U
,, Bordesley—*J. Collings, U
BLACKBURN (2)—*W. Coddington, C, *W. H. Hornby, C
BOLTON (2)—*Colonel Bridgman, C, *H. C. Cross, C
BOSTON— W. Ingram, G
BRADFORD, Central—*Shaw Lefevre, G
,, East—W. S. Caine, G
,, West—A. Illingworth, G
BRIGHTON (2)—*Sir W. T. Marriott, C, *G. W. E. Loder, C
BRISTOL, North—C. Townsend, G
,, South—*Sir E. S. Hill, C
,, East—*Sir J. D. Weston, G
,, West—*Sir M. Hicks-Beach, C
BURNLEY—*J. S. Balfour, G
BURY—*Sir Henry James, U
BURY ST. EDMUNDS—*Lord F. Hervey, C
CAMBRIDGE—*R. N. P. Fitzgerald, C
CANTERBURY—*Henniker Heaton, C
CARLISLE—*W. C. Gully, G
CHATHAM—Colonel Loyd, C
CHELTENHAM—*J. Agg-Gardner, C
CHESTER—*R. A. Yerburgh, C
CHRISTCHURCH—H. A. Smith, C
COLCHESTER—Captain N. Leyland, C
COVENTRY—*W. Ballantine, G
DARLINGTON—*T. Fry, G
DERBY (2)—*Sir W. V. Harcourt, G, *Ald. Roe, G
DEVONPORT (2)H. Kearley, G, E. J. C. Morton, G
DEWSBURY—*M. Oldroyd, G
DOVER—*G. Wyndham, C
DUDLEY—*Brooke Robinson, C
DURHAM—M. A. Fowler, G
EXETER—*Hon. H. S. Northcote, C
GATESHEAD—*Hon. W. H. James, G
GLOUCESTER*—T. Robinson, G
GRANTHAM—H. Y. Lopes, C
GRAVESEND—D. Palmer, C
GREAT-YARMOUTH—J. M. Moorsom, G.
GRIMSBY—H. Josse, G
HALIFAX (2)—*J. Stansfield, G
HANLEY—*W. Woodall, G
HARTLEPOOL—*C. Furness, G
HASTINGS—*Wilson Noble, C
HEREFORD—W. H. Grenfell, G
HUDDERSFIELD—*W. Summers, G,
HULL, West—*C. H. Wilson, G
,, East—C. Smith, G
,, Central—*H. S. King, C
HYTHE—*Sir E. Watkin, U
IPSWICH (2)—*Sir C. Dalrymple, C, *Lord Elcho, C
KIDDERMINSTER—*A. F. Godson, C
KING'S LYNN—T. G. Bowles, C
LEEDS, North—*W. L. Jackson, C
,, East—*L. Gane, G
,, South—*Sir L. Playfair, G
,, West—*H. Gladstone, G
,, Central—G W. Balfour, C
LEICESTER (2)—*J. A. Picton, G, Sir J. Whitehead G
LINCOLN—W. Crosfield, G
LIVERPOOL, Exchange—*R. Neville, G
,, Abercromby—*W. F. Lawrence, C
,, Scotland—*T. P. O'Connor, P
,, Kirkdale—Sir G. E. Baden Powell, C
,, Everton—J. Willox, C
,, Toxteth, East—*Baron de Worms, C
,, Toxteth, West—R. P. Houston, C
,, Walton—J. H. Stock, C
,, West Derby—*Hon. W. H. Cross, C
MAIDSTONE—* F. S. W. Cornwallis, C
MANCHESTER, North-West—*Sir W. Houldsworth, C
,, North—C. E. Schwann, G
,, North-East—*Sir J. Fergusson, C
,, East—*A. J. Balfour, C
,, South—*Sir H. Roscoe, G
,, South-West—*Jacob Bright, G
MIDDLESBRO'—*J. Wilson, G
MONMOUTH DIS—A. Spicer, G
MORPETH—*T. Burt, G
NEWCASTLE (2)—*J. Morley, G, C. F. Hamond, C
NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME—W. S. Allen, G
NORTHAMPTON (2)*—H. Labouchere, G, *M. P. Manfield, G
NORWICH (2)—*S. Hoare, C, *J. J. Colman, G
NOTTINGHAM, East—*A. Morley, G
,, West—*Col. Seely, U
,, South—*H. S. Wright, C
OLDHAM (2)—J. M. Cheetham, G, J. T. Hibbert, G
OXFORD—Gen. Sir G. Cheeney, C
PENRYN and FALMOUTH—*W. G. C. Bentinck, C,
PETERBOROUGH—*A. C. Morton, G
PONTEFRACT—*Hon. R. Winn, C
PORTSMOUTH(2)—W. O. Clough, G, Ald. J. Baker, G
PRESTON (2)—*W. M. Tomlinson, C, *R. W. Hanbury, C
PLYMOUTH(2)—*Sir E. Clarke, C, Sir W. Pearce, C
READING—G. W. Palmer, G
ROCHDALE—*T. B. Potter, G
ROCHESTER— Ald. Davies, C
ST. HELENS—*H. Seton Karr, C
SALFORD, North—W. H. Holland, G
,, West—*Lees Knowles, C
,, South—*H. H. Howorth, C
SALISBURY—*E. H. Hulse, C
SCARBOROUGH—Sir G. Sitwell, C
SHEFFIELD, Central—*Colonel Vincent, C
,, Attercliffe—*Hon. B. Coleridge, G
,, Brightside—*A. J. Mundella, G
,, Hallam—*C. Stuart-Wortley, C
,, Ecclesall—*Ashmead-Bartlett, C
SHREWSBURY—*H. D. Greene, C

SOUTH SHIELDS—J. C. Stevenson, G
SOUTHAMPTON (2)—*D. H. Evans, G, T. Chamberlayne, C
STAFFORD—C. E. Shaw, G
STALYBRIDGE—*T. H. Sidebottom, C
STOCKPORT (2)—*L. J. Jennings, C, J. Leigh, G
STOCKTON—T. Wrightson, C
STOKE—*Leveson Gower, G
SUNDERLAND (2)—*E. T. Gourley, G, *E. Storey, G
TAUNTON—*The Hon. P. Allsopp, C
TYNEMOUTH—*R. S. Donkin, C
WAKEFIELD—Colonel Charlesworth, C
WALSALL—F. James, C
WARRINGTON—R. Pierpoint, C
WARWICK—*A. W. Peel (Speaker)
WEDNESBURY—W. Lloyd, C
WEST BROMWICH—*J. E. Spencer, C
WHITEHAVEN—T. S. Little, G
WIGAN—*Sir F. S. Powell, C
WINDSOR—*F. T. Barry, C
WINCHESTER—
WORCESTER—*Hon. G. H. Allsopp, C
WOLVERHAMPTON, S.—*C. P. Villiers, U
,, West—Sir A. Hickman, C
,, East—*H. H. Fowler, G
YORK (2)—*F. Lockwood, G, J. G. Butcher, C

UNIVERSITIES.

CAMBRIDGE (2)—Sir J. E. Gorst, C, *Professor Jebb, C
LONDON—*Sir J. Lubbock, U
OXFORD (2)—*Sir J. R. Mowbray, C, *J. G. Talbot, C

The collection of Egyptian antiquities in the British Museum has lately been enriched by a large number of casts from monuments in the Museum of Gizeh. Among them the following are of extreme interest: A statue of Khafra, King about B.C. 3666, the builder of the Second Pyramid. This is the earliest royal Egyptian statue known, and, at the same time, perhaps, the most remarkable for the delicacy of workmanship and the refinement of expression which the sculptor has thrown into the countenance. It was found, with others, in a well in a temple near the Great Sphinx. A sarcophagus of Khufu-Ankh, a high official under Khufu, about B.C. 3733, the king who built the Great Pyramid, is a noteworthy object. Khufu-Ankh was a pluralist in his day, being priest of Apis, of a white bull, and a sacred heifer.

In the Andaman Islands the important work of edible birds'-nest collecting is reported to be over for The season. The swifts arrive in the islands towards the end of November, but they take their time in building the nests, which are formed from a gelatinous secretion from the salivary glands of those beautiful members of the swallow tribe. If there has been a wet December the first crop of nests is generally a poor one, being soiled by the damp and drippings from the roofs of the caves. Collectors, however, begin in January to go round the islands to the different caves in an open boat. The best quality resemble pure isinglass, and are worth their weight in silver. Afterwards there are two other collections. The caves in which the nests are found are scattered about the islands; some are far inland, others in rocks concealed in mangrove swamps.

A watch for the blind is among the newest inventions. A small peg is set in the middle of each figure. When the hour hand reaches a given hour the peg for that hour drops. The sightless owner, when he wants to know the time, finds which peg is down, and then counts back to twelve.

It has just been discovered that an island in the Pacific Ocean, about a mile square, lying due south of Hawaii, and marked on the charts as uninhabited, is really peopled. The captain of a Norwegian barque reports that fifteen natives, Malays, came out from the island in canoes to the ship. One of them said, "Good morning," and another asked for tobacco. These three words seemed to be all the English they knew. Two of them were small mats, and the rest were naked. They had no weapons.

It would be interesting to know the proportion of Englishmen in our so-called Highland regiments, considering that during the past recruiting year only seventy-one men were enlisted in the Highlands, and less than this number, namely, fifty-eight, selected their native county regiments. For some unaccountable reason recruiting in the Highlands for Her Majesty's Army, and particularly for the Highland regiments, has lately been very unsatisfactory—indeed, recruiting in Scotland generally might be a good deal better, as the latest returns show that Scotland only contributed 1,477 recruits, or less than the number returned by London alone.

ARTS AND LETTERS.

The series of illustrations of English Cathedral now appearing monthly in the *Builder* includes some admirable drawings of Christ Church, Oxford, published last month, and several sketches of Southwell, which form the July instalment. Last Saturday's *Builder* also contains one of Mr. H. W. Brewer's clever "restorations" of ancient work. It represents the high altar of Westminster Abbey, as it existed before the Tudor changes. Mr. Brewer's picture, and the article from his pen which accompanies it, are of great interest to the archæologist, and serve to convey some idea of the extreme magnificence of the great Abbey Church before the setting-up of the Abomination of Desolation in the sixteenth century.

Mr. Brewer is undoubtedly correct in stating that in mediæval England it was the universal practice to suspend the receptacle containing the pyx for the reserved Sacrament over the Altar of Reservation. But is he quite satisfied as to his interpretation, on this head, of the MS. illustration of Abbot Islip's funeral? Certainly Mr. Brewer has the late Mr. W. Burges against him. In the reproduction of that drawing given in Sir Gilbert's Scott's *Gleanings from Westminster Abbey* there is a distinct representation of a sacramental Tabernacle—apparently a fixed structure in two stages, surmounted by a conical roof having a triple crown. Mr. Brewer's "restoration" shows this roof, but for the fixed tabernacle is substituted a hanging pyx veiled with curtains, the whole being attached to a pulley. The point is one of some archæological importance, and it would be interesting to know what is the exact evidence afforded by the Islip Roll.

Referring to the ornaments of the Altar, Mr. Brewer mentions—what must have occurred to most students of mediæval illuminations—that, as a rule, very few of these representations represent candlesticks standing on the Altar. Brewer suggests, by way of explanation, that, in some churches, at any rate, the candlesticks were brought in and put on the Altar before the service began, and taken away again when it was over. That seems a by no means improbable supposition. We believe we are correct in stating that at Salisbury Cathedral it was the custom within quite recent times, for two altar candlesticks to be brought in before the service, and removed at its conclusion—a survival, apparently, of the mediæval usage.

In the atrium of a Roman house recently excavated in the Piræus an unusually fine mosaic pavement has been laid bare, of which a large Medusa head occupies the centre. The head, sixty centimetres high, has abundant hair, and on the forehead two wings, like those of the *petasus* of Hermes, and is flanked by serpents. The inscription which runs round it is a reproduction of verses 741-2 of the fifth book of the *Iliad*, describing the Medusa on the shield of Athena In the same ruins were found a terra-cotta antefix bearing in the centre a Gorgoneum, but dissimilar from the above, and it is of savage and repulsive appearance, with the tongue hanging out of the mouth.

On the sale of the Magniac collection at Christie's there was a keen competition for the famous Limoges enamel hunting horn by Leonard Limosin. It was in the end knocked down to a dealer of Berlin for 6,300gs.

In a London auction-room a pair of bellows of Italian workmanship—and designed, it is supposed, by Benvenuto Cellini—was sold for 470gs.

Dr. Lloyd, organist of Christ Church, Oxford, has been appointed Precentor and Musical Instructor at Eton College, in the place of Mr. Joseph Barnby.

Mr. Goring Thomas's posthumous comic opera, *The Golden Web*, will be one of the principal productions during the coming tour of the Carl Rosa Company, and will be given for the first time at Liverpool in January.

"Give me here John Baptist's head in a charger!" This was the request of Salome to Herod! and was to have been the subject of Mr. Oscar Wilde's one-act play, written in French, and rehearsed by Mdme. Sarah Bernhardt. The Lord Chamberlain, however, positively refused to grant a license for any play based on an incident in Biblical history.

This year's Bayreuth Festspiele will commence on the 21st inst. with a performance of *Parsifal*, which will also be given on the 28th inst., and on August 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, and 21, on which day the performances close. *Tristan und Isolde* will be produced on the 22nd and 29th inst., and August 5 and 20; *Tannhäuser* on the 24th inst., and August 7, 12, and 17; *Die Meistersinger* on the 25th and 31st inst., and August 14 and 18. The following is a complete list of the principal vocal interpreters engaged this season, viz.:—1. *Parsifal*—H. H. Van Dyck and Grüning (Parsifal); Frls. Mailhac and Malten (Kundry); H. H. Grengg and Frauscher (Gurnemanz); Kaschmann and Scheidemantel (Amfortas); Liepe and Plank (Klingsor). 2. *Tristan und Isolde*—Frau Sucher (Isolde); H. H. Vogl (Tristan); Gura and Döring (Marke); Plank (Kurwenal); Frau Staudigl (Brangäne). 3. *Tannhäuser*—Herr Grüning (Tannhäuser); Mesdames Hartwig, Hedinger, Mitschiner, and Mulder, (Elisabeth); H. H. Döring (Landgraf); Scheidemental (Wolfram); Frl. Mailhac (Venus). 4. *Die Meistersinger*—H. H. Gura (Hans Sachs); Anthes (Walther); Müller (Beckmesser); Frauscher (Pogner); Bachmann (Kothner); Hofmüller (David); Mesdames Hartwig, Hedinger, Mitschiner, and Mulder (Eva); and Frau Staudigl (Magdalena). The conductors will be H. H. Levi, Mottl, Richard Strauss, and Hans Richter.

According to an American writer, the Chicago Public Library, supported by general taxation, has accumulated 175,000 volumes, increases at the rate of 20,000 annually, has a general circulation of 1,200,000 and is the seventh in size in America. The new Chicago University Library takes rank in a single day as the third of the United States great libraries by the purchase of 300,000 volumes at Berlin. The Newbery Library has 80,000 books and an endowment fund of 3,000,000 dols.; while another, the Crerar Library, is about to be established with a like endowment.

Mr. D'Oyly Carte's opera-house is to be turned into a theatre of varieties; at least, an attempt is being made in that direction. It is proposed to start a company for its purchase under the title of "The Palace Theatre." The capital will be £200,000, £170,000 of which will be devoted to the purchase of the freehold and the theatre. The necessary music-hall licence will be applied for in due course, and in the meantime the project will go forward with the Lord Chamberlain's licence, and a programme embracing drama, "variety," and ballet. Sir Augustus Harris is the managing director of the "Palace Theatre."

The plans of Mr. Henry Thare, of London, have been accepted for the proposed new Municipal Buildings in Oxford. No fewer than 137 sets of plans were sent in.

Mr. Warburton, the British Vice-Consul at La Rochelle, in his last annual report, says that the town has for many years been infested with the white ant. This pest was introduced about the end of the last century, and for a long time was confined to a particular quarter of the town, but through the imprudence of builders engaged in repairing the damages these insects had done to the houses, who, instead of burning the old wood, allowed it to be carried away, they are now almost everywhere, and many public and private buildings are in a dangerous state from them. They eat away the beams and timbers from the inside, which makes it very difficult to know the exact amount of damage done, and therefore a house can never be safe where they are known to be. In some cases it has been necessary, as a precaution, to have the important supporting beams and woodwork taken out and replaced by iron, lest the houses should come down unexpectedly. This has been done at the prefecture, which was the first place where they appeared, and where of late years they have eaten part of the archives, and there are gardens in which it is useless to attempt to grow certain flowers (for instance, geraniums) which they attack by eating out the inside of the stalk, leaving the skin untouched. It has been found impossible to destroy or get rid of them.

Correspondence.

THE IRISH QUESTION.

Sir,—Outside the circle of the interests attacked we can talk glibly enough of "principles" and enactments. Within the circle we see things in a different light. To the Irish Nationalist and English Home Ruler, even to the Unionist and Conservative, the Irish landlord is fair game for persecution and spoliation. We call it the "relief of the tenant from unjust oppression," and put our faith in the panacea of peasant proprietorship. Land Act after Land Act has reduced the value of Irish property to a *minimum*, and hundreds of landlords have been ruined in the process. The curse of absenteeism, which was once voluntary, is now a necessity, and wherever one turns one hears of houses shut up and going to decay because the owners have been mulcted of their rents while forced to meet their rent-charges in full. Whether it is for the advantage of the district—the parish—that the most liberal, the most enlightened, and the wealthiest residents should be forced to leave it is a question that answers itself. The last bit of persecution devised against the unfortunate Irish landlord is compulsory sale. This is one of our methods for the creation of peasant proprietors; but, if anything, it is even more iniquitous than Home Rule. It strikes at the root of one of the fundamental principles of society—the security of property. It is a tyrannical and unjust attack on one set of men only—the Irish landlords; for we would not submit to it in England, nor could it be applied, as in fairness it ought, to the owners of house property. If a man can be forced to sell his land to the tenant, on the principle of non-occupation and therefore the right of the occupier to possess if he will, so ought the owner of houses to be forced to sell his surplus stock to those who inhabit and wish to possess. Where would this principle end? What is it but the thin end of the wedge of personal spoliation? The evils which afflict Ireland will not be cured by the ruin of the landlords and the destruction of the whole class of gentry—the removal of the best intellects and most enlightened minds from the country, and the substitution, for the present race of gentlemen, of a set of comparatively uneducated peasant proprietors who will sub-let their land, as they do now, and farm it no better than they do now. Will the thriftlessness, the indolence, the political passion, the servile subserviency to the priesthood, the early marriages and large families, the absence of all civilising motives of life, which make Ireland the failure she is, be remedied when the best of her people are broken and withdrawn? Yet this shameful clause of compulsory sale comes into the programme of even Unionist candidates, and, if carried in Parliament, will put the finishing touch to legislative injustice. The only hope of those who desire to see fair play is in the fact that no Government would dare to ask the British taxpayer for the money. But indeed, to an outsider suddenly introduced into the midst of things, it seems to be one of the most disgraceful, as well as arbitrary and unjust, bits of legislation that have ever been mooted by English politicians.

I remain, faithfully yours,

E. L. L.

Sir,—Those who are still doubtful as to the clerical intimidation that is habitually practised in this country at election times can easily satisfy themselves by personal investigation if they so desire. It will be only necessary for them to walk through the streets in the neighbourhood of any polling-station, during the approaching elections, to see the activity of the Catholic clergy in directing their flocks as to their conduct. In many places, especially in the midland counties, they will see the voters driven like sheep before their spiritual pastors to the doors of the polling-stations, inside which they will be subjected to the same supervision by clerical personation agents. That thousands of them, as well able to read as I am myself, will be forced to declare themselves illiterate, so that these same agents may know they have obeyed orders and voted accordeing to dictation, is absolutely certain. Few Englishmen really believe to what extent clerical dictation is brought into play at Irish elections, and it is very desirable that impartial observers should visit this country during the next few days and realise it for themselves. Possibly their experiences when made public may help to convince wavering English Nonconformists as to the reality of the clerical despotism they would inflict on this country by assisting the Home Rule cause. Another matter, which was made good use of at the last general election, but appears to be somewhat allowed to fall out of sight at present, is as to the influx of destitute Irish into England and Scotland that would be a certain and speedy result of any form of Home Rule. Yet it is certain as anything can be that such an influx must inevitably follow Home Rule. Total paralysis of industry of all sorts, and the universal discontinuance of employment owing to the withdrawal of capital and flight of employers, will the first and most inevitable result of even a temporary success of the Home Rule party at the polls. Within a radius of three miles from where I write, probably from eighty to 100 families would be instantly thrown out of employment on the passage of a Home Rule Act. Their employers would immediately discontinue their wages, since their own position in the country would be in future untenable. To those with money or friends the United States would be available, but to the greater proportion there would be no resource but starvation, plunder, or instant passage across the Channel to seek work in England. If the British workman is ever weak enough to assist in establishing Home Rule, he will meet a just retribution in the exodus of destitute Irish who will at once compete with him in the already overcrowded labour market of Great Britain.

Your obedient servant,

A LEINSTER J.P.

PUPIL TEACHERS.

Sir,—I am very glad to see Mr. Nunn's letter, speaking of the "present enormous difficulty in getting assistant-teachers and pupil-teachers," and suggesting one excellent way out of the difficulty. On the general question of the supply of teachers, and recently issued statistics of the Education Department are by no means reassuring. I hope to return to the subject when the elections are over and there is some chance of being listened to. But in the meanwhile Mr. Nunn's letter must not be allowed to fall flat for want of backing up.

Since a letter from me appeared in the *Times* last April on this subject I have heard from many young ladies who wish to become elementary teachers and who do not know how, and I should be glad if you would let me follow up Mr. Nunn's letter by one of somewhat more detailed suggestion, which would certainly have been useful to my correspondents and, I hope, may be so to others.

For any girl inclined to try her hand at elementary teaching, and to have a good and safe resource, if ever obliged to earn her own living, the present is a golden opportunity. Only the other day a girl of twenty-one, who had received but slight education in an Elementary school, and had only had nine months' experience in teaching, was eagerly engaged for a country school as an additional female teacher (Article 68) at a salary of £30, with the promise of a rise if she was found satisfactory. A well-educated clergyman's daughter ought to be worth at least as much, and may very easily get it at any time between now and October. In October it is to be hoped that the famine may be relieved for a time, but it will soon be worse than ever.

Under Article 51 any person (either male or female) who has passed one of a long list of "University and other examinations" can be recognised as an "assistant teacher." Any girl who is fortunate enough to have done this can at once secure a good appointment with ease; but if not, she could get engaged as an additional female teacher under Article 68 in a girls' or a mixed school. It is true managers do not often advertise for an "Article 68;" she is supposed to be quite an inferior article. But if a girl of the class I am supposing would boldly respond to advertisements for an "ex-P. T.," she would very soon find herself engaged. Let us suppose she does so. She must at once take seriously in hand the Queen's Scholarship subjects for July, 1893—viz., reading and repetition, English arithmetic, geography, English history, and teaching; also, as optional subjects, music, one language, one science, and drawing. If she is well educated and intelligent, to begin with, a year's work on this programme will certainly secure her a high place in the class-list. If she passes at all, she can take a situation as an assistant at a salary, say, of £50; if she passes well, she will have the option of going to a training college for two years at nominal fees (in this case she must sign a declaration that she *bonâ fide* intends to become an elementary teacher). In either case she could pass her first year's certificate examination in December, 1894, and her second year's examination in December, 1895. Then she would be a fully certificated teacher—qualified to take charge of any school or to earn an excellent salary as a certificated assistant.

There are thousands of girls who might with great advantage go through such a three years' course, even without any definite intention of making teaching a permanent profession. Such girls might feel that they had come to the help of education in its time of sore need, when it is grievously stricken with the wounds with which it was wounded in the house of its friends; they would also find that they had enriched themselves for life with that wonderful faculty of the skilled teacher—a faculty which would be of inestimable value to them in day-school, Sunday-school, night-school, or Bible-class in a father's or a husband's parish, or in the teaching of their own children. They would also have gained their certificate, and in it they would possess a sure pledge of being able, should the days of necessity come, to earn an honourable and comfortable livelihood in an elementary school or (if they should prefer it) in a higher-grade school. How many clergy are there who can afford to despise the chance of leaving their daughters in such security?

WALTER E. SMITH.

The Vicarage, Corton, Lowestoft.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND HER FOREIGN WORK.

Sir,—All thoughtful people will be thankful for the width and wisdom of the Primate's remarkable speech at the annual meeting of the S.P.G. There is a passage towards the end which we may hope will result in some definite and practical step forward. His Grace's words were:—"To sum up, we do not want larger ideas of mission work. We should not stand so few in numbers, so unhelped by large masses of Christian people, if only we could convince them that we have very large ideas for the good of mankind. The work wants doing on a grander scale; what we want to do is not so much thinly expanding the Gospel over a large area, as to make great centres, colleges of clergy and laymen, in a great number of places, where the Gospel light could be focussed and pour its rays all around. (Cheers)."

May I venture to make two practical suggestions that may possibly help to bring this about?—

1. That our Archbishops and Bishops (assisted by the Board of Missions) should carefully consider, and then sanction, some plan by which clergy who have served faithfully and well in England for three or four years (we don't want English failures) may volunteer for foreign service—say, for five years, such service to count as it they had remained in the home diocese to which they belonged, that on their return they should no more be considered "returned empties" than an officer in the Army on his return from foreign service. Those who decided not to return, but to dedicate their lives to such a great cause, could, of course, still do so. What a resurrection this scheme would bring about in the foreign work of our Mother Church if it were worked wisely, and why not? Those of us who have the responsibility of being examining chaplains could do much in this matter in our private interviews with the candidates at the time of ordination; and the scheme, amongst other things, would help the solution of a matter which is certainly becoming pressing. I mean the assistant-curate question.

2. That in a world-wide communion like ours it is time we had more than two Archbishops. We haven't a single Archbishop in the foreign field. Surely the missionary work of our Church is ripe for a careful development in this matter; the position of the See of Canterbury as *primus inter pares* could and should be safeguarded.

Why not make all Primates and Metropolitans Archbishops? That they are not is a serious loss to us in many ways. Here is one. In all our great colonial and missionary centres the Church of Rome, with her usual shrewdness, appoints an Archbishop while we only send a Bishop; the consequence is that on all great public occasions, as well as in society, the Roman Archbishop either claims, takes, or is given precedence. If this is attempted (as it certainly is) here in England, we know what it would mean even in our own colonies, where our Church has not the legal status which she enjoys at home. The effect upon the great crowd of the colonists and heathen isn't difficult to estimate, for people believe what they can see more quickly than what they are told, and so Rome is distinctly the gainer amongst these new peoples, mainly because of her shrewdness in the matter of organisation for missionary purposes.

Has not the time come for definite and well

considered action, on the two points of which I have ventured to write?

J. P. A. BOWERS, Canon of Gloucester.

The College Green, Gloucester, June 27.

THE CHURCH AND THE GENERAL ELECTION.

Sir,—The story of "Our Church and our Country" needs to be widely made known at this solemn crisis. If it were known, I feel confident that the new Parliament would possess a very large majority from Great Britain and Ireland of members who would do everything that is possible to promote the benefit of all classes, not by the destruction of the Church of England and the banishment of Christianity from our day schools, but by rendering Church and schools more and more efficient for the benefit of the people.

I am persuaded that there are many pious dissenters who are not aware of the real danger we are in, of reverting almost to heathenism, when Christianity is no longer taught in our schools.

Already the "rowdyism" and bad manners of School Board children have been a subject of comment in some Radical newspapers. Worse than this is at hand. I heartily wish that at this juncture, every voter could be made to know the contents of Mr. Nye's little book entitled "The Church and her Story," 1s. 6d., published by Griffith, Farran and Co., and to be obtained of any bookseller.

Cannot people be gathered together in the villages to hear it read, or to read it amongst themselves? It contains the truth and nothing else, and all that is desired is, that the people should know this, and not mere bits of history.

I saw yesterday a Dissenting Meeting House, placarded with Radical political papers and "Vote for ——," and I find on enquiry that this was not because another place for a political meeting had been refused.—Yours truly,

GEORGE VENABLES.

Honorary Canon of Norwich and Rector of Burgh Castle.

NONCONFORMISTS.

Sir,—Mr. Guinness Rogers maintains that "where there is no Established Church there can be no Nonconformity," and, therefore, that Irish Nonconformists ceased to be Nonconformists when the Church of Ireland was disestablished.

Can so prominent a Nonconformist be unaware that until comparatively recent days the name was never bestowed on separatists from the "Established" Church? Down to the end of the 17th century the term "Nonconformist" was used to designate one who conformed—to use their own phrase—to the essence of the Church, and did not conform to some of its accidents—*e.g.*, the sign of the Cross in Baptism, the ring in marriage, &c. It was the mark of the Nonconformist that he did not leave the Church, as everyone acquainted with the ecclesiastical literature of the period knows very well. Baxter, for example, the prince of Nonconformists, was the most strenuous advocate of patient continuance in the Church. I quote one sentence from his "Account of the Reasons why the Twelve Arguments said to be Dr. John Owen's change not my Judgment about Communion with Parish Churches" (published in 1684):—"The most sober and learned Nonconformists of former times, notwithstanding their scruples on some points, yet utterly condemned separation from our churches as sinful. . . . The Nonconformists in England wrote more against separation than the Bishops did."

If, therefore, the proper meaning of the word is to be pressed—and this is what Mr. Rogers insists on—neither Irish nor English non-Episcopalians are Nonconformists. But I think Mr. Rogers will learn this with some surprise.

I am yours, &c.

JOSEPH HAMMOND.

Vicarage, St. Austell, July 1.

THE PRIVATE ENDOWMENTS OF THE CHURCH.

Sir,—As the question of disendowment will in all probability be brought forward in many places during the approaching election, it is highly desirable, in the interests of religion, that it should be known that a great, if not a greater, portion of the endowments of the Church arise from private gifts of her members.

The importance of bringing out this fact cannot be over-estimated, as it is one that has been lost sight of from the fact that there is no accessible record extant showing what are the private endowments of the Church that have been bestowed since the Reformation. The only attempt that has been made to throw any light on the matter is to be found in the return which was presented to Parliament in Session papers No. 265 H. C. of 1890 and No. 287 of last year. But as those returns deal only with endowments given since 1703, they are obviously defective.

I purpose, therefore, to collect all private endowments of the Church bestowed from the Reformation to the date when the present returns commence, and to arrange them, together with others given since 1703, in a tabular form under counties and parishes, disclosing the name of the donor, date of the benefaction, and its value.

The details so collected I intend to insert as an appendix to my work on *Alienated Tithes*, now soon to be published, after many years of incessant labour and great expense.

In the meantime I would ask the clergy to furnish me with the details of private endowments given to their benefices from the Reformation to the year 1703. If they would kindly co-operate, I doubt not that it would prove that out of nearly six millions now returned as belonging to the Church, a great, if not the greatest, portion arises from the free-will offerings of her members.

The establishment of such a fact would most likely stay the spoiler's hand from grasping the private as well as the public endowments of the Church; and, furthermore, stimulate her faithful laity to re-endow her to whatever extent she may lose from public emoluments. If this was done the Church would stand on a rock which no political wave would overthrow, and make her at once, and for ever, totally independent of the State.

H. GROVE,

Author of *Alienated Tithes*,

10, *Granville-square, W.C., June* 28.

ECCLESIASTICAL DILAPIDATIONS.

Sir,—Now that the elections of Proctors for Convocation are in full swing let us hope the clergy are pressing upon the candidates the necessity of advocating the amendment of the Ecclesiastical Dilapidations Act, 1871. Though it, doubtless, is a considerable improvement upon the previous law, still it, from the first, seems to have been drafted with too superficial knowledge, and with anything but a statesman-like grasp of the subject.

The chief corns upon which the shoe pinches are the heavy fees paid to diocesan surveyors, and the cumbersome process by which the payer or payee's dissatisfaction can be expressed. The expenses of repairs must always exist under any Act, but the method of their payment is not necessarily stereotyped. I admit that it is far better to employ a gentleman to make the survey, and for his services pay him sufficiently, than to risk such collusions as there sometimes used to be under the old Act, when one side appointed, say, the village joiner and the other the village bricklayer as their representatives. Very objectionable, too, was the delay of a survey till the vacancy of a benefice.

The following is a matter for an actuary; but I believe it has been calculated that an annual tax of something like 1 per cent. on the net income of all benefices would pay as liberally a surveyor's fees for an inspection every five years as the present system does, and *also would pay all the costs of repairs needed.* A scale might possibly be arranged of, say, 10s. per cent. per annum for all benefices under £150; 1 per cent. for all between £150 and £450; and 1½ per cent. for all above £450 net. The larger the income the more glebe buildings would there be likely to be for survey and repair. In this survey let everything be included, chancel as well as other buildings, so that the visit every fifth year of the diocesan surveyor would just as regularly and inexpensively (except for the above annual percentage) come round as the visit of Her Majesty's inspector comes round every year to the village school.

Let some diocesan authority contract for the the repairs to be done, and there would always be the incumbent on the spot, as a sort of clerk of the works, to see that they were not being scamped, and who would be able, when the surveyor came for his second inspection, to draw attention to anything he thought improperly carried out.

J. ALDER WILSON.

Crathorne Rectory, Yarm-on-Tees, June 30, 1892.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

ACROSTIC RULES.

A Prize of One Guinea is given every month for the successful solution of the Acrostics appearing in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on July 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30.

At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competition so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties.

No competitor can gain more than two Monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic addressed to the ACROSTIC EDITOR of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length.

Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 4.

(JUNE, 1892.)

1. S	CRE	W
2. I	NCOGNIT	O
3. L	UGAN	O
4. K	OH	L

Solutions have been received from White Hat, Noryb, Dunstan, and Hadji.

MARCH TIES.—Correct solutions have been received from Sociable and Chelmsford, who remain competing.

APRIL TIES.—Correct solutions have been received from The Griffin, E.V.P., and Boozlewax, who remain competing.

MAY TIES.—Correct solutions have been received from Molly, Robin, and Ancient Briton, who remain competing.

MONTHLY LIST FOR JUNE.

1. Iden, Two Countesses, White Hat, and E.A.F.
2. Beam, Noryb, and Chameleon.
3. Erica.
4. Hadji, who wins the prize, is requested to forward name and address for publication.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 2.

(JULY, 1892.)

PROEM.

Stalwart and stout, my manly form appears;
My voice commands; well am I known to song.
Me hast thou seen in childhood's tender years,
And heard my plaintive notes the groves among.

1.

A minute's work of careless hand, but often careful thought,
What grief, what loss to careless heads, the want of me hath brought.

2.

There in the cup the bead flies up,
In Italy this you may drink as you sup.

3.

Oh, strange, the old is changed to new, the while its sovereign lord,
By revolution, profiting, from pomp to power restored.

4.

Flushed with the pride of youthful strength, he tamed the might of France,
Yet sought the waves a fugitive before the Arab lance.

5.

This is each of you, my friends, with pleasure or with pain,
For your passing recreation, or perchance for lasting gain.

At the Church Congress to be held at Folkestone, in October, the following, among others, have consented to speak or read papers:—Lord Herschell, the Attorney-General, Lady Vincent, Sir F. Goldsmid, Sir. A. Gordon, the Bishops of Manchester, Salisbury, Exeter, Edinburgh, and Gibraltar, Sir W. Herschel, Professor Kirkpatrick, Sir J. Lintorn Simmons, Bishops Barry, Smythies, and Wilkinson, Sir Dyce Duckworth, the Chaplain-General, the Dean of Rochester, Mr. E. Stafford Howard, and Mr. R. H. Hutton.

JOHN BULL.

LONDON, JULY 9.

Mr. Arthur Balfour drew, in one of the many brilliant speeches that he has recently delivered, a graphic description of what the government of Ireland by the Nationalists would mean. He said "that if Home Rule were granted, Ireland would necessarily be governed according to the avowed principles of the National League. Now, what are those principles? Mr. Gladstone, in a flight of rhetorical eloquence, which I think must have a little carried him off his legs, likened, if I understood him rightly, the dominant faction in Ireland to babes and sucklings. The infant pastimes of these babes and sucklings were of a very formidable description. One of their little jokes, one of their little playful performances, consisted in boycotting people to the point of starvation, in performing upon dumb animals the most horrible and most cowardly mutilations, in exercising intimidation against every man who took a farm from which any other tenant had been evicted, and in carrying out those wholesale principles of intimidation which they have publicly gloried in, and which I have to admit with shame the Liberal party in these last years of their decadence, have done very little to check or to repudiate. Now, consider, with these principles behind them, with these as the animating motives of their conduct—consider, I say, how this Cabinet that I have ventured to describe is going to set to work to govern Ireland. Ireland is, in the main, and with the exception particularly of Belfast and of the north-east of Ulster, an agricultural country; and even its towns are dependant rather upon agriculture than either mining or manufactures. Therefore, a Parliament that adopts principles in connection with the agrarian question which are bound to injure rather than improve Irish agriculture may not only commit grave injustice upon individuals, but must permanently injure the deepest interests of the country. Now, what are the principles in connection with agricultural legislation and administration that the National League and this future Cabinet composed of ex-National Leaguers have publicly adopted! They have adopted the principle that, if it suits them, tenants able to pay may hold the land for which they have promised to pay, and may combine against their landlords to fix the exact sum which it is convenient for them to pay. They have announced the principle that a man who takes a farm from which another man has been evicted—no matter from what cause, be it incompetence, be it drunkenness, be it gross dishonesty, be the cause what it may—that a farm from which a man has been evicted is never again to be occupied by another tenant."

"Now, consider what those two principles alone mean. All of you here are connected directly or indirectly with great business operations, either agricultural, commercial, or manufacturing. What should you say of a system which practically made it impossible for a creditor to recover a debt, however much that debt was honestly owed? What would you say of a system which prevented a man who desired to take a farm or to invest his capital in industry from doing so and which visited him with the heaviest penalties—I was going to say of the law—not of the law, but of the illegal combinations which have been so prevalent in Ireland, if he ventured so take a farm which nobody else had a right to, of which nobody else was in occupation, and which, if he did not take it, must lie, as they call it, derelict, barren, and useless to the community, and which for all time until the original worthless tenant was brought back by the landlord must remain in this condition of absolute uselessness both from the point of view of the owner of the soil and from the point of view of the general public? Is it not certain that under such a system agriculture would languish? Is it not certain that under such a system enterprise would no longer be rewarded? And if enterprise be no longer rewarded, the very motives by which in all the more happily situated countries the best persons succeed best in life are absolutely brought to an end. I am told that possibly Mr. Gladstone may reserve the question of the land laws to the Imperial Parliament; that he will refuse to the Irish Legislature the determination of the principles on which land is to be let and held in Ireland. If he does so he will quarrel with his Irish allies; but, whether he does so or not, no remedy will be brought for a state of things I have described, because it is not necessary to alter the existing land laws in Ireland to ruin the Irish landlords and to demoralise the Irish tenants. If the law officers of the Crown refuse to move, if the magistrates refuse to convict, if juries refuse to hear evidence, to give verdicts according to evidence, it will become absolutely impossible for any Irish owner of land, or any Irish tenant, to obtain justice if his action was opposed to the action of the majority. And how is it possible, I ask, for the Parliament which it is proposed to set up in Ireland, based as it will be upon the traditions of lawlessness that I have described, guided as it will be by the politicians whose principles I have explained to you—how will it be possible for them to administer justice equally between landlord and tenant, between the man who desires to take an empty farm and a man who desires that that farm shall never be taken until he himself is restored to it? It appears to me that you will perpetuate, and necessarily perpetuate, everything that is worst in Irish life. The principles of the National League, iniquitous, unjust, contrary to the everlasting dictates of justice, will be converted into the rules by which the Executive of Ireland will be governed, and all the consequences that necessarily happen to any society which casts behind it the principles of justice and morality will assuredly fall upon the Irish nation. And we shall have to look on, gentlemen. Nothing that we can do, if this Parliament be established, can check the evils I have ventured to describe. We shall be sitting at Westminster helpless spectators of a wrong that we have caused, but cannot cure. We shall see before us the foretold consequences of our own folly, but then it will be too late to remedy it."

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain is looking forward to six years more of Radical legislation if the present Government remains in office. Speaking at Birmingham in the course of the election he said:—"If the working classes of this country give support to the Unionist party I do not hesitate to predict that the next six years will be at least as fruitful and good as those which have passed. Let me remind you for a moment or two of those portions of our policy which are still uncompleted. There is a question which concerns every working man and to which I myself attach the greatest importance, and that is the question which goes by the name of employers' liability. I hold that every man who is injured in the course of his employment by no fault of his own ought to be certain of a reasonable and proper compensation. And believe me we shall not rest until we have accomplished that great reform. Then there is the question of provision for old age. Is that a policy of negation? Why, I have felt for a long while that the greatest boon we can offer to the people, now that we have given them free education for their children, is to give them some provision for their old age. I hold it to be a scandal that after a man has worked all his life, has been industrious, has been as thrifty as his small means will permit of — I hold it to be a shame that when failing strength forbids him to continue to earn his own livelihood he should be forced to choose between starvation and what he considers to be the humiliation of the workhouse. But mark this as distinguishing the two parties. Was there ever a question which was less of a party question than old age pensions? Yet, when I moved in it you found the Gladstonians against that question, setting their backs against it, treating it with scorn and with ridicule, and without having anything better to propose in its place. I do not ask you to pledge yourself to one proposal, to one thing; I ask you to pledge yourself to the great principle that it is the duty of the State to provide for the veterans of industry just as it provides for the veterans of the Army and Navy. Then if you want constitutional change we are ready for you. Mr. Balfour said the other day that he was perfectly ready to consider the question of one man one vote if at the same time he was allowed to consider the question of the redistribution of political power. At the present time Ireland is over-represented. I want those twenty seats which do not belong to Ireland—I want them for Birmingham and Manchester and Liverpool and London, for the great centres of population inhabited by intelligent people, and—if you are to make a choice—much more fitted to exercise the franchise than the illiterates in Ireland who are brought to the ballot-box in flocks by their priests, and are made to vote according to their dictation. I have not yet completed my list: there is another question of great importance to which the Government have promised their attention. Promise with the Unionist Government means performance. They have promised to take steps to amend the law with regard to working men's dwellings, in such a way as, if possible, to secure on reasonable terms sanitary and proper dwellings for the working classes. I do not believe there is any reform which could contribute more immediately to the happiness of the greatest number of our people than the reform which would give them healthy and comfortable houses. There are other questions, a whole list of questions, which are included in what we call labour and social problems."

In the course of the same speech Mr. Chamberlain made some trenchant remarks on the probable character of the new Irish Parliament that Mr. Gladstone proposes to create. He said:—"Before you can say whether the Ulster people are right in preferring the authority of the British Parliament to the authority of a Parliament in Dublin, you ought to know two things. The first is, By whom will the Dublin Parliament be elected? and the second, Of whom will it consist! Now, by whom will it be elected? By the Irish Roman Catholic priests. One never can touch this question without some of our opponents saying, 'Oh, you are going to appeal to bigotry.' I am not going to appeal to bigotry, and I want you to make a distinction between the Irish Roman Catholic priests and the Roman Catholics generally, or the Roman Catholic religion. The loyal Roman Catholics in Ireland at the present time number, I believe, something like 500,000, and they are standing shoulder to shoulder with the loyal Protestants, and saying that they will not have a Dublin Parliament. The other day there was a great convention in Dublin which represented the Loyalists of all the three southern provinces. Who do you think was in the chair? The Earl of Fingall, who is the premier Catholic nobleman of Ireland; and the Earl of Fingall said that he and his friends would stand firmly by the Union, and that they believed that a Dublin Parliament could bring nothing but disaster. But it is one thing to recognise the loyalty of these men, their intelligence, and their piety; it is another thing to approve of the conduct of those Irish Roman Catholic priests who, in defiance even of the Rescript of the Pope himself, have supported the authors of the Plan of Campaign, and have encouraged the men who were causing the outrages which have taken place in Ireland. These men recently have been taking part in elections. They have denounced their opponents from the altar. They have threatened eternal punishment to those who voted against them. They have carried their men up to the polling-booth. In the polling-booth these priests have acted as personation agents in order to see that the poor illiterates, whom they made to declare themselves illiterate, voted according to their dictation. I say, gentlemen, that both the loyal Roman Catholics and the Protestants of Ireland are right in saying they will not submit themselves to a Parliament which will be elected under the influence of men like these. Now consider the next question. Of whom will this Parliament consist? Are they men whom you can trust to be fair and reasonable, and impartial as between class and parties in Ireland? Did Mr. Gladstone discredit them? I have been told that I have spoken of them in strong language. I believe that I have never, in speaking of them, used language of my own. I have only quoted the language used about them by Mr Gladstone himself, by the Judges of the Parnell Commission, and by themselves of one another. What better witnesses to character could I call?

Here is Mr. Gladstone, who declared that they preached the gospel of plunder, who said that they were marching through rapine to the disintegration of the Empire, who declared they were steeped to the lips in treason; here are the Judges of the Commission, who found they were guilty of conspiracy to expel the English garrison by coercion and by intimidation, who found also that they incited to intimidation after they knew that it provoked outrage and crime. And now listen to what they say of one another. There has been a little difference of opinion, and these men, who for the last ten years have been sworn brothers, who have worked together, who have lived together, who have conspired together—these men, who must, if anybody, know the respective character of their friends—hear what they say of one another, and then consider, gentlemen, whether anything that I have said does not 'pale its effectual fire' before the condemnation of themselves. Here is the portrait of the M'Carthyites painted with a big black brush by the Parnellite section. They are 'liars,' 'rogues,' 'traitors,' 'thieves,' 'renegades,' 'gutter sparrows,' 'blackguards,' and 'miserable scoundrels.' Those are the M'Carthyites. Here are the Parnellites as they appear to their former colleagues. They are 'traitors,' 'pledge-breakers,' 'perjurers,' 'liars,' and a 'filthy gang of Irish blackguards.' Those are the men who are going to form the Dublin Parliament. Men of Birmingham, how would you like to be governed by them? Would you submit? Then are you going to compel, to coerce your fellow-subjects in Ireland in order that they may submit?"

Professor Goldwin-Smith, who, so long as he remained in England, was a violent Radical, has, since he went to reside in Canada, and had under his immediate observation in the United States a thoroughly democratic government, become strongly Conservative in his views. He has contributed to a recent number of the *North American Review* an article entitled "Party Government on its Trial," which deserves to receive the careful attention of those who take an intelligent interest in English politics. Mr. Goldwin-Smith says: — "Whether Home Rule for Ireland be good or not, nobody can doubt that it is a measure of tremendous import. If it led to separation, as probably it would, and as Mr. Parnell manifestly intended that it should, the ultimate result would be either the fall of the British power, or the re-conquest of Ireland, and a fresh cycle of woes; its immediate consequence would be the delivery of Ireland to the priests and the overthrow of national education. It apparently involves a dishonourable desertion of the Irish Protestants, who are stretching out their hands to England in protest. A more momentous step it would be impossible for British statesmen to take. Yet party is willing to take it for the sake of ousting hated opponents and regaining power. Bright truly said that there were not among Mr. Gladstone's followers, outside of the Irish section, twenty men who approved his bill. The rest were voting for party, and at the bidding of its caucus, a few months before, they had been Unionists supporting a Coercion Act more stringent than those which they afterwards denounced as tyranny, applauding the arrest of Mr. Parnell and of scores of his followers, and cheering when he was branded as a conspirator wading through dismemberment to rapine. Such they had been, and so they had continued to act till the result of a general election made it clear that without the Parnellite vote their party could not regain power. Not only their views of policy but their views of history were changed when party gave the word, and Pitt's great achievement, the Union, lauded by them before as equal in beneficence to the fiscal reforms, suddenly became an injury, while admiration was transferred from its author to the patriots of Vinegar Hill. Even British respect for the law was thrown aside; agrarian outrage was palliated if not encouraged, and a peasantry highly excitable, and very bloodthirsty when excited, was exhorted to remember scenes of blood.

"Party it is which is ready and eager to throw the United Kingdom into the smelting pot, to cover its parts with dishonour, and expose it to mortal peril in the future, for the sake of a victory over rivals and restoration to power. Home Rule, with the manifest possibility of dismemberment or civil war in its train, is the price offered for the Irish vote. Even the aid of foreign enemies, as the American Fenians proved themselves to be, is not disdained by party maddened with the strife for power. Little cause have British statesmen to point the finger of scorn at the fishers for that same vote in the political waters of the United States. But of the price which party in England offers for return to office Home Rule is now but one item. It offers Church disestablishment, though its leader has been, throughout his life, of all upholders of Church establishment the most eminent, and the one who defended it on the hightest ground of principle. It offers measures of economic change, socialistic in their tendency, of indefinite extent, and holds out to the proletariat a hope of something like legislative confiscation of the property of the rich. When an arch wire-puller like Mr. Schnadhorst calls a convention of agricultural labourers, appeals to their discontent, stirs up their class feeling against the landowner, and promises them in effect a redivision of the land, can it be supposed that his real object is economical justice? His real object, manifestly, is to gain for his party the agricultural labourer's vote. If he can do this, he is ready to set rural society in a flame. The other party understands his move, and feebly attempts to outflank him by holding an agricultural convention of its own. On all sides, men who have hitherto posed as sound economists and political philosophers, now carried away by the frenzy of the strife, are dangling before an enfranchised proletariat hopes of a redistribution of wealth by socialistic legislation, which they must know to be deceptive, and, if entertained by the masses, pregnant with the danger of social war. Party is at the bottom of it all.

"Sweeping measures of political change are tendered at the same time and with the same object. The House of Lords is to be abolished or reduced to impotance, while no constitutional check or balance in the nature of a Senate is proposed in its room. The last limitations of the franchise are to be swept away. Any minor safeguards which wealth or intelligence still retain in the electoral field are to be destroyed. The Septennial Act is to be repealed. Parliaments are to be made triennial or perhaps annual, and thus the House of Commons, in which now whatever is left of authority resides, and which is practically not only the legislature but the government of the country, is to be reduced to a mere slave and organ of the popular will. This result has indeed been to a great extent brought about already by the operation of the local caucus for elections introduced by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, but the repeal of the Septennial Act would complete the work. There would thenceforth be no authority but that of the local caucus, or of the collective local caucuses under a general organisation managed by some national boss like Mr. Schnadhorst.

"The last bid of party for power, however, is perhaps the most desperate of all. It is the payment of members of Parliament, coupled with the assumption by the State, of all the expenses of elections. The conservative portions of the British Constitution generally have become names and shadows, though they still impose to a surprising and fatal extent on the imagination of British statesmen, luring them into sweeping measures of suffrage extension and other concessions to democracy, which they fancy are safe because there is legally a crown with a royal veto, and an Upper House of Parliament; as though the veto of the crown had not long been practically extinct, or the House of Lords were like the American Senate, a really coördinate branch of the legislature. But two conservative institutions of a practical character have hitherto survived, and have been real barriers against democracy, which otherwise would have come in like a flood, bridled by no limitations such as are imposed on it by the written constitution of the United States. These two institutions are the non-payment of members of the House of Commons and the liability of the candidate for the expense of election. Living in London being costly, and involving the abandonment in the case of country members of their business or calling, has confined the representation generally to men of independent means. The few representatives of labour who have found seats in the House are maintained, sometimes rather grudgingly, out of the trade fund, while the Irish members are maintained out of a political fund which has been apparently on the point of failing. Election expenditure also, though reduced, is still considerable. The two barriers together have hitherto sufficed to exclude generally from the House of Commons those whose object in entering public life is to eat a piece of bread. But now the Gladstonians are promising payment of members and the assumption of election expenses by the State. Among the Gladstonians in Parliament not a few are rich members for manufacturing districts, whose radicalism may be not uncharitably suspected to be partly donned for the sake of the seats which are objects of their social ambition. It must be with secret bitterness of heart that these men consent to the payment of members, knowing, as they do, that they sign the warrant for their own deposition in favour of the demagogues who will make politics their trade. But party gives the word, and they must obey. Apart from the interest of their own ambition, such men can scarcely fail to feel a pang at the thought of the hands into which they are delivering the country and the Empire. The agricultural labourer is a worthy man in his way, and by his sturdy toil has made English fields bear unrivalled harvests; but he is as ignorant of all political questions as the team he drives, and his only idea is voting for the party which will give him three acres and a cow. The factory hands, who predominate in the electorate of the north of England, are far superior to the farm labourer in intelligence, but for the most part citizens of the labour market rather than of their own country, caring for little but increase of their wages and the material enjoyments which it will bring to solace lives of dull, monotonous toil; impregnated moreover with Socialistic sentiment, open in their state of half-education to economical fallacies, and animated by class feeling against the capitalist, who lives apart from them in his suburban villa, and whom they are taught by labour journalists and orators to regard as the 'spoiler' of their 'toil.' The Irish peasantry and the populace of Irish cities are thoroughly disaffected, and they have eighty seats in their hands. To a sovereign people composed of such political elements, or to the demagogues who can get control over it, payment of members and assumption of election expenses by the State will consign the direct rule not only of the British Islands, but of the 250,000,000 of British India and all the other dependencies of the Empire. Political madness, it would seem, could scarcely go further. But what is so mad as faction at a crisis for the struggle for power! The excitement of ordinary gambling is individual, that of faction is intensified by contagion. A strange sight it is, that of a highly-civilised, wealthy, refined, and luxurious community thus calling in the barbarians, and plucking a social revolution on its own head, to satisfy the desperate ambition or the party animosity of a small number of its members.

"Nothing short of a revolution, political, religious, social, and economical, is the price now bid by a party in England for a change of government. Nor is this all. Violent efforts have been made to wreck the House of Commons itself or force on its dissolution by the practice of obstruction, and in this an active part has been played by men who have all their lives figured as scientific publicists and calm speculators in politics, but have lost their self-control and philosophy in the fury of the faction fight. That House, which was once the model and the guiding light of deliberative assemblies throughout the world, has thus been reduced to a state in which deliberation is hopeless and even the common decencies of debate can no longer be upheld. If the minority will not let the majority govern, there is an end of parliamentary government. It is no longer a contest of party; it is morally a civil war. Had Lord Salisbury been the man for the situation, he would have taken up the gauntlet thus thrown down by the recklessnesses of the opposition. Having a great majority behind him and the public force in his hands, he would have passed, if necessary, by the application of the cloture, such measures as might have redressed the balance of the Constitution, restored the

authority of the House of Commons, taken legislation and government from under the feet of Mr. Schnadhorst, and effectually shut the door against revolution. But Lord Salisbury, though a man of the highest reputation for ability, was not the man for the situation. He is a diplomatist, rather than a statesman. To the great political problems which he was called upon to solve, he seems never to have seriously given his mind. His one political aim seems to be the preservation of the House of Lords. For this he is ready to pay by concessions to Socialism, which only serve to whet its apetite while they compromise the principles and shake the nerve of his own party.

"It is right to say that one side has sinned almost as much as the other. Obstruction was first practised by Lord Randolph Churchill, who, in his essay on "Elijah's Mantle" proving himself indisputably the heir of Disraeli, avowed with astonishing frankness that in party warfare, he thought of nothing but success, leaving moralists to say what they pleased. The present series of disasters began with the unprincipled coalition brought on by Lord Randolph between the Tories and the Parnellites for the overthrow of the Gladstone Government. Nothing in the whole of this disgraceful history is more disgraceful than the abandonment of the Crimes Act by the Tories, in requital for Parnellite support, and the language of their leaders in the Commons in what was called the Mamtrasna debate."

Mr. Abram, writing in *Blackwood's Magazine*, has a gloomy picture to give of the commercial prospects of Lancashire. He says:—"Sadly altered is the tone of producers and traders in Lancashire cottons when they talk of foreign trade. Their state of mind is that of anxiety and alarm. They are all pessimists; an optimist is unheard of on Manchester Exchange. Lancashire chafes as it feels that the inlets of trade in foreign lands are blocked everywhere. Significantly, the gloomiest views of the future are expressed by those manufacturers and merchants whose foresight is keenest, who have had the largest experience, and who watch events and the markets most narrowly. The wisest men in the trade have warned their fellows and the operatives that evil days may be in store, and must be prepared for. The oldest firms amongst millowners have shown what they expect by their having ceased long since to extend their works or to increase their production. Some make no secret of their wish to be out of the business, and one by one sell out when they can at almost any sacrifice. Before the ailments of the business became so inveterate, a number of large concerns were converted into joint-stock companies, that being the only method of disposing of the mills for a price near their nominal value. Now, it is next to impossible to float an established private business in cotton manufacturing as a company. On a forced sale the depreciation of a cotton-mill anywhere in Lancashire amounts to from half to three-fourths of an appraiser's valuation.

"The proceedings of town councils in the Lancashire towns, and discussions of towns' affairs at burgesses' meetings and in the local newspapers, disclose the constant consciousness of those who take the lead of the gravity of the situation of the staple trade. Towns which, thirty years ago, were held up by their inhabitants as bright examples of enterprise and progress, are now proclaimed aloud to be 'decaying towns'; and proposals for carrying out the most desirable towns' improvements are exclaimed against and vetoed on the ground that, in the existing state of their principal trades, fresh expenditure upon public improvements ought not to be incurred. An exception is made as to votes of municipal bodies for technical school, which are felt to be a necessity for the better training in mechanical science and artistic taste of the rising generation of the workman. Also the local rates of some great towns have been heavily mortgaged by lavish votes towards the construction of public works promoted as a means of bringing trade to those towns, by cheapening the cost of carriage to and from the place of manufacture of raw material and manufactured goods. The ambitious scheme of the Ship Canal from the Mersey estuary above Liverpool to Manchester, upon which the Canal Company and the corporation of the latter city have jointly spent over £13,000,000 of money, originated in the conviction of some of Manchester's ablest citizens that the city was in danger of losing the position it has gained and enjoyed as an emporium of manufacturing trade. The corporation of Preston, too, have committed themselves to the outlay of a million and a half upon a scheme for training and deepening the main channel of the Ribble, so as to render it navigable for ships of medium tonnage from the mouth of the estuary up to Preston, and in the construction of a large dock near the town. Preston was moved to that dubious venture by its apprehension that its trade could not be retained unless some advantage of cheap water-carriage could be offered as an inducement to capitalists to erect new mills in the town. These works, when completed, at a cost which may prove very burdensome to the ratepayers, can only benefit Manchester and Preston at the expense of the other manufacturing towns a few miles further inland, to which ship canals and navigable river-channels cannot be extended, and which must still receive and forward their goods to port by the dearer land-carriage.

"Now, let us go on to consider the circumstances which, by their combined action, have arrested the growth of the foreign trade of Lancashire, and by their continued stress threaten to bring to pass the incurable decline of its commercial power. It may be observed that a trade in an article of universal utility, once fairly established, will last so long as the condition out of which it was created can be maintained, and no longer. The consumption of it must not diminish; it must not be superseded by some novel thing designed for the same purpose; the price at which it can be supplied must not be advanced beyond the purchasing ability of the whole body of consumers; the quality and appearance of the goods must not be permitted to deteriorate, relatively to price; the supply of it must not outrun the requirement, else, though the volume of the trade may thereby swell, it will cease to be profitable; the original producers of the article and creators of the trade must be able to hold their connection against the attacks of imitators and competitors; and the markets to which they had access must be kept as open and unrestricted as they were when the trade was developed. Let us see which of these conditions of the permanence of a trade have held or have failed in the foreign trade in cotton goods manufactured in Lancashire, and how, where they have failed, they have come to be lost or surrendered. First, we enumerate those which have not changed. (1) The world's aggregate consumption of cotton fabrics has not diminished, but has increased regularly up to date. No other description of textile products has displaced them for clothing or other purposes. (2) The price at which they are retailed to consumers is not dearer, but cheaper than it was ever known to be before; this is owing partly to abundant crops of cotton causing the staple to fall in price, and partly to further economies in the cost of manufacture. (3) The quality of the goods supplied, relatively to price, has not deteriorated, although the demand of dealers for the cheapest makes has led to extensive adulteration of goods produced to answer the demand for the cheap and flimsy. So far there is no apparent reason why the trade in Lancashire cottons should tend to be contracted. But as to the next condition (4), the supply of cotton piece-goods in the great markets, especially in those of India, has recently, at times if not continuously, exceeded the necessities of consumers, and the effect has been to unduly cheapen the commodity and to destroy the producer's profit, after the merchants and agents have taken their commission, and the charges of carriage to market have been deducted from the selling price. Again (5), the Lancashire traders, who founded the cotton trade and long held the field, have latterly been unable to stand their ground at all points against foreign imitators and rivals. And (6) the markets of the world outside the United Kingdom have not, with few exceptions, been kept free and open to British trade in these fabrics. So, if it be true that the cotton trade of Lancashire, which in its earlier history had free course round the world, and was amazingly profitable, has, after a period of slower increase, followed by one of arrested growth, begun to shrink, the causes of the unfortunate change may be summed up as loss of profit on the trade in a class of goods cheapened down by excess of supply of markets still open; and, more damaging, the insidious encroachments of foreign competitors, either protected in the markets they rely upon by duties on imported British goods raised to the point of absolute prohibition, or greatly favoured upon their own ground by the employment of native labour infinitely cheaper than that of British factory operatives, and additionally premiated by laws regulating labour in cotton-mills much less exacting and stringent than the Factory Acts in force in this country."

A working parson, whose experiences have been gathered in large town parishes, tells, in the *Cornhill*, some amusing stories chiefly relating to the wedding ceremony. Once it was his lot to be embarassed by the appeals of two young women who wanted to marry the same bridegroom. The first comer of these had scarcely told how her faithless lover had actually put up the banns in an East-end parish, when the delinquent turned up with an idiotic grin on his face and a gaily-apparelled young woman on his arm. What could the parson—then a young and bashful curate—do but invite the trio into the vestry-room, there to discuss the business. Luckily for him, it speedily leaked out that there had been no legal residence in the parish, which afforded him a sufficient ground for declining to perform the ceremony. On another occasion the awful discovery was made that the bride had by accident been described in the marriage licence by her pet name. It was suggested that an affidavit of identity sworn at a neighbouring police-court might repair the blunder. This was done just in time to complete the ceremony within canonical hours; but the accommodating clergyman afterwards received a stern admonishment from high quarters "not to do it again." Another case was that of an elderly widower who was so dull and stupid that it was very difficult to marry him. When told to give his right hand he gave his left; when the minister said "Say this after me," he immediately remarked "Say this after me." But when the words he was to repeat were given, he was stolidly silent. "At last," says the narrator, "he saw that I was somewhat bothered by his extreme stupidity, so in the middle of the service he upset my gravity by volunteering the following apology: 'You see, sir, its so long since I was married afore that you must excuse my forgetting of these things.'" One more sample. It appears that it occasionally happens that a couple who have been content to be married at a registry office are some time afterwards seized with a desire to be married again, as the law allows, in church. The "working parson" having one day got such a couple on the steps of the altar, he was rather nonplussed by the answer he got to the question, "John, wilt thou have this woman to thy wedded wife?" "Why, Sir, replied the bridegroom, "I told you we was married two years ago."

An article on Trinity College, Dublin, appears appropriately enough in the *English Illustrated Magazine* at a time when the tercentenary of its foundation is in course of celebration. The writer, Mr. W. R. Scott, says:—"Just three hundred years ago the foundation-stone of Trinity College, Dublin, was laid upon the site occupied by the ruins of the monastery of All Hallowes. After the dissolution of such institutions in the reign of Henry VIII., these lands and buildings had been granted to the citizens of Dublin as a reward for their loyalty. In December, 1591, Queen Elizabeth sanctioned the proposal to found 'a college for learning, whereby knowledge and civility might be increased.' The first buildings were of red brick, intermixed with wooden framework. They occupied the half of the present front square nearest the gate—or about one-sixth of the present area. Two sides of the early quadrangle contained students' chambers, and the remaining space was devoted to 'the steeple,' the chapel, the hall, library, and 'Regent House'—or the old examination hall. Needless to say, none of these earlier buildings now remain. Such was the early college. The old orchards and meadow-lands of the monks soon became the 'Fellows' gardens,' whence could be seen the houses of the city clustering round the river, the Wicklow mountains on the south, and the harbour on the east.

"Both college and town have grown, and the memory of the green fields is now preserved only by the inscription on the seal—'The College of the Holy and Undivided Trinity near Dublin.' Instead of walking through the old paths of Hoggin Green, the visitor of to-day finds Trinity College in the centre of Dublin. Four of the chief streets bound the grounds, while the frontage is one side of the present 'College Green.' Some of the best buildings in Dublin now stand on either side, and the old Parliament House (now the offices of the Bank of Ireland) balances the massive face of Trinity.

The front of the college consists of a façade adorned with Corinthian pillars, the centre of which is pierced by an arched entrance. Immediately within the gateway on the left is a room known as 'the porters' lodge.' Here a body of officials keep watch and ward. At nine o'clock P.M. the gates are closed, and the names of students who enter later are carefully noted and brought before the notice of the 'Junior Dean'—one of the Fellows who is entrusted with the maintenance of college discipline. If the number of 'late returns' exceeds a specified scale according to the college standing of the student, he is warned, and sometimes fined. Many are the ingenious excuses urged in extenuation. Students, when before the Dean, seem to have relays of sick relatives, or friends bound for the Antipodes, whose vessels always sail after sunset, or colds which are treated homœpathically. Over the vestibule is the hall once used as the museum. When the collection grew beyond its compass, part of it was removed to the buildings connected with the medical school, and part to a new structure known as the engineering school. All that now remains at the gate are the weapons of South Sea Islanders which are hung upon the walls of the staircase leading from the vestibule to the hall above. This collection was made by Lieutenant Patten during Captain Cook's voyages. The hall itself is used for lectures or smaller examinations during the day, and the various college societies meet there in the evenings. Upon every Wednesday during term-time, the famous Historical Society, though half the age of the college itself, continues its meetings, and as yet shows few signs of age. At one time it was one of the chief political influences in Ireland, and its members comprised most of the leading politicians of the time. It is not uncommon to see a member excused (or sometimes censured) for being absent from his place to attend to his duties in Parliament. Before this society Burke began to speak, and, like many others, he was reproved for his 'exercises being ill-prepared.' It is curious also to note that he received the thanks of the society for 'the matter rather than the manner of his speech.' During the existence of the Historical Society, it has passed through many strange vicissitudes. At one time it met in a room now used by the fellows over the entrance to the dining-hall. At another the society and the Board had many hot disputes which finally compelled the members to meet outside the college precincts. The tercentenary of Trinity College will, it is to be hoped, leave a permanent gain to the societies. For a scheme has been under their consideration for forming an extensive Union Building, where they can all meet, and at the same time retain their individuality and traditions. The present accommodation, consisting chiefly of rooms in the two houses upon each side of the gate, must be considered inadequate, when it is remembered that some of the societies number four or five hundred members, while the rooms were originally intended to form chambers for about half-a-dozen students.

"The gateway leads directly into the front square, which is almost 200yds. long. Larger than most college quadrangles, it size must be acknowledged in keeping with the architecture. Had the space been contracted either in length or breadth, the massive Greek porticoes of the main buildings would have either dwarfed their surroundings or appeared disproportionately great. As it is the solid Greek pillars and porches enlivened by the bright green grass (so rarely seen out of Ireland) and the foliage of the trees, form a picture more classic than modern. It cannot be described as beautiful in the ordinary sense of the term; rather on the contrary one feels the calm of a great strength, and a peace that rests on the best thought of ages. Inside the heavy gateway the bustle of the street traffic dies away, and the outside world is left behind. A spirit of quiet seems to guard the place that ignores the changes of years,—alike indifferent to the tread of armies or the fever of modern life."

"The present front square was once divided into two small quadrangles by a range of brick buildings running parallel with the college front. These have long since been removed, and in their place stands the 'Campanile'—a bell-tower almost unique. Intrinsically beautiful, the Campanile is still more important as giving the eye a definite starting-point, which would otherwise become confused amongst long lines of symmetrical buildings. Near the Campanile are the chief buildings of the front square—the dining-hall, the chapel, the examination-hall, and the library. Upon the north of the front square is a quadrangle of later date known as 'Botany Bay.' Possibly the name is intended to indicate a place of seclusion, if not quiet, for some of the more restive spirits amongst the younger members of the college. But the comparative isolation of 'Botany Bay' is little regretted by its residents. At nightfall two watchmen lurk in the dark shadows, in the hope of extinguishing bonfires and other amateur illuminations.

"Continuing the line of the front square is a third quadrangle known as the "Printing House Square"—so called from its being the site of the University Press, which is a building similar to the Chapel and dining-hall, but smaller in its frontage. Before the present square was built this part of the college was part of the park, and it was here that one of the fellows, a Mr. Ford, was shot, in the closing years of the last century. The site next the park is partly occupied by a building already mentioned, known as the Schools, the new Building, or Engineering School, which differs largely in architecture from the rest of the college. It is essentially modern in form and represents the best Italian ornamentation. When Ruskin came to Ireland he often spent hours in admiring the symmetry of the structure and perfection of the carvings. The floral ornamentation was executed throughout by Irish stone-carvers and copied directly from Nature. The hall in the interior is crowned by a double dome of variegated brickwork, which is supported upon richly-tinted pillars of Irish marble. The various class-rooms open off this hall, and it is here that the engineering and divinity students attend their respective lectures. The Medical School with the Anatomical Museum is a separate range of large buildings, only recently completed, upon the other side of the park. The open space between the Printing House Square and the boundary of the college grounds is known as the Park. About one-third of the area is thickly planted with trees and is familiarly called the Wilderness—owing to the fact that it is not used by any of the clubs. The remaining portion contains the grounds of the two football clubs, also those of the cricket and tennis clubs.

In a critical study of Lord Salisbury which appears in the *New Review*, there is an attempted explanation of the strange attitude that the Prime Minister has assumed with regard to domestic politics. The writer says:—"Whether calculation (*i.e.*, judicious calculation, sound inference) or whether mere weakness and weariness of home affairs explains Lord Salisbury's indifference to the sapping of his own party of late, is an open question. The probability is that he is too much absorbed in foreign affairs to care for what happens in England; or rather that, to his view, the maintenance of a certain line of foreign policy is so profoundly important, the disturbance of it would be so fatal a misfortune for the whole Empire, that he willingly assents to any means of keeping out the dreaded disturber which his party-managers represent as hopeful. That, and not mere weakness before the 'bluffing' of Liberal Unionist Radicals, may be the explanation, and probably is. But if so, we have another Illustration of the Elizabethan Italianism of Lord Salisbury's mind. But for that, there seems to be no reason why he should not take his fellow-countrymen into his confidence, explain the present position of Great Britain in relation to other Powers, and say why he thinks the incoming of a Gladstone Government would probably be followed by untoward complications and threatening movements. In doing so he would give no information to foreign Governments, who of course know all that he could tell us on such points; while it is extremely likely that he would secure a support at home which he forfeits by silence and secrecy, and which may not be made up to him by the dubious ingenuities of his colleagues in the House of Commons. But then, to abandon silence and secrecy, to limit the field of ingenious alternative and things of that sort, would not accord with Lord Salisbury's idea of statesmanship, and it would destroy his enjoyment of the game. Palmerston's way is not his way."

In Mr. Vaux's pleasant papers on "Church Folk-lore," which are appearing from month to month in the *Newbery House Magazine*, there is some amusing gossip on the clergy from a social point of view. The writer remarks:—"There is, says Mr. Overton, an odd illustration in *Craddock's Reminiscences* of the immeasurable distance which was supposed to separate the bishop from the curate in old days. Bishop Warburton was to preach at St. Lawrence's Church in behalf of the London Hospital. I was, writes Craddock, introduced into the vestry by a friend, where the Lord Mayor and others were waiting for the arrival of the Duke of York, who was their president; and, in the meantime, the Bishop did everything in his power to entertain them, and alleviate their patience. He was beyond measure condescending and courteous, and even graciously handed some biscuits and wine in a salver to the curate, who was to read prayers. Dean Swift, in his *Project for the Advancement of Religion*, speaks of curates in the most contemptuous terms. 'In London a clergyman, with one or two sorry curates, has sometimes the care of above 20,000 incumbent upon him.' For the edification of the younger clergy at the present day, who are apt to grumble at the meagreness of their stipends, which now are rarely less than £100 a-year, and often a great deal more, I may perhaps be pardoned if I say, in passing, that forty years ago, when I was ordained, at my first curacy I received 50gs. a year, and at my second £50. I am by no means implying that my services were worth more. But 200 years ago things were worse as regards remuneration for clerical duty. The common fee, then, in case of casual assistance rendered, was, for a sermon, 1s. and a dinner, and for reading prayers 2d. and a cup of coffee.

"Just above I quoted from Dean Swift. Here is another extract, in which he draws a sad picture of the households of the more needy clerics in his day:—

"'His wife is little better than Goody in her birth, education, and dress; and as to himself, we must let his parentage alone. If he be the son of a farmer it is very sufficient, and his sister may be very decently chambermaid to the squire's wife. He goes about on working hays in a grazier's coat, and will not scruple to assist his workmen in harvest time. His daughter shall go to service or be sent apprentice to the semptress in the next town, and his sons are put to honest trades. This is the usual course of an English vicar from £20 to £60 a year."

"There is probably some truth in this, but I cannot help thinking that there is a good deal of exaggeration. I suspect that Mr. Overton is not far wrong when he cites Fielding's characters of Parson Adams and Parson Trulliber as fair specimens of the higher and lower type of the poorer clergy in his day. But all the clergy were not so poor then, any more than they are now.

"In the days of which I am writing 'teetotalism,' as we now understand the term, had not been invented. There are some rather curious items to be picked up relative to the refreshment provided for the clergy on duty in times gone by. An instance was given above; here are one or two more. The following appears in the vestry minutes at Haveringatte-Bower, near Romford, Essex:—

"'At a vestry held at St. Marie's Chappel, Havering, ye 9th of Nov., 1717.

"'Agreed—yt a pint of sack be allowed the minister yt officiates ye Lord's-day ye winter season.

"'Present—G. Shortland, Chaplain.'

"(and six others.)

"In the north of England they seem to have been exceptionally liberal to the clergy. Thus, in the vestry book of the parish of Preston, under date April 19, 1731, it is ordered that two bottles of wine be allowed any strange clergyman that shall at any time preach. Query—Was he expected to drink the contents before leaving, or did he put the bottles in his pocket? At some of the City churches in London St. Dionis Backchurch, for instance—wine and biscuits are liberally provided in the vestry every Sunday for the officiating clergyman, and on the occasion of charity sermons when the Lord Mayor and other members of the Corporation attend in State, wine, cake, and biscuits are handed round to all who have the *entrée* at the close of the morning service. When I was a boy, and attended St. Philip's Church, Birmingham, I know that a bottle of wine and glasses were always placed on the table in the vestry for the clergy and more important officials. Whether this is still kept up I know not."

Lady Jeune, writing from the point of view of respectable middle-class people, has some gossip on domestic servants in the new number of the *Fortnightly Review*. She says:—"Very few people have any approximate idea even of the number of domestic servants employed in England, but the Servants' Union gives us what they say is the real number, taken from the returns of the last census, and the numbers at first sight stagger us. The gross numbers are 1,803,997, out of which 130,865 represent coachmen, grooms, butlers, and footmen; 1,230,406 female servants, 92,747 charwomen, and 62,646 male and female hotel servants; the remainder is composed of the smaller classes, who are comparatively unimportant. It is calculated that there are over 12,000 servants seeking employment in vain in London alone, and the majority are by no means composed of women. It is undoubtedly true that the greater number are bad and ill trained, or that the love of change, which has become one of the most distinctly marked characteristics of English servants, has inevitably produced a class with very short characters, not so much bad as with the unfailing peculiarities, so irritating and inconvenient to employers, of a real nomad, for such, in fact, a large number of servants have become. Many causes have combined to bring about these conditions. The dislike of control and the monotony of domestic service contrasted with the freedom and independence of factory and shop employment is one; the impossibility of having all their evenings to themselves is another; but by far the most important has been the great financial disasters of the last two or three years, which have been more heavily felt by the upper-middle classes than by any other, and who, in consequence of loss of income, have been obliged to dispense with everything not a necessity in their lives. And so the extra servant has to be parted with, and among the class who would engage her every one is doing the same. This has also affected men-servants, for many people who could afford to keep a carriage have sold it, and parted with the coachman; and in other families where one indoor man-servant was kept, his place has been taken by a parlour-maid.

"There are degrees in every class in life, and it would be ridiculous to compare the life of the single servant in a small middle-class house, or that of the poor 'slavey' in a London lodging-house, with those of the servants belonging to the richer classes. Of all those whose existences one pities, none deserve it more than these two. Taken when very young and perfectly inexperienced because they cannot demand higher wages, and beguiled by the promise of being trained so as to enable them to rise in their profession, many girls lead lives more like that of slaves, because under the pretence of being a free person the servant works for hours and in amount a great deal more than ever fell to the lot of the much-pitied 'nigger.' She is, in fact, worse off than a 'nigger.' Beginning service in a small house where there is no method or management, she contracts the slipshod habits of her *entourage*, and instead of ever improving she drags on a miserable existence on about £14 a year. She has little sleep and no rest all day long, her employer looks on her as a machine out of whom as much must be made as can be, and they know nothing of her history, her family, her past, and take no interest in her whatever. She seldom has a kind word said to her. She is expected to be clean, tidy, methodical, and civil when every one is the reverse, and when the day comes that, broken down in health by overwork, she is shipped off to the workhouse, another 'slavey' takes her place. The lodging-house 'slavey' has a very bad time, undoubtedly, but she has certain advantages over her fellow-slavey in that if she works hard and is civil she gets 'tips' from lodgers, and as a good lodging-house general servant can generally get £16 a year, and can make nearly as much from the people who lodge in the house, she does not come off badly; but the work is indescribably hard, and she is often more than human in her strength and endurance.

"One cause which is operating severely on English servants, and augmenting the number of those out of work, is the very large increase in the number of flats which now exist in London, and which are increasing most rapidly. Hitherto English people have clung to their old-fashioned idea of a house of their own, with their own entrance and staircase, but the convenience of flats is reconciling them to their adoption. The French, American, and Viennese have always adopted the apartment mode of living, partly from its convenience, partly for the smaller household it necessitates; and is the difficulty of getting good servants has increased in London, people have been driven to change their mode of living, and go into flats. What has always added considerably to the work and labour of servants is the height of London houses, and the number of stairs to ascend. In a flat that difficulty at once disappears, and everything is done to diminish labour; and what with lifts and electric lighting, which is now becoming universal, the necessity of having a large number of servants no longer exists. One or two maids and a man do the work which, under former conditions, took up the whole time of double the number. This, among many other causes, is one reason why there are so many servants out of work, on the one hand, and why, on the other, we are told it is impossible to get good ones. The bad training which many get at the beginning of their lives, and the impatience and unkindness of upper servants, who will not take the trouble to instruct those under them properly, is another; but perhaps the most potent of all is the desire on the part of all young servants, especially among girls, to 'get on,' and, therefore, they will not give up the years which are necessary to carry out a complete training. Especially is this the case among cooks. Every girl who goes into the kitchen feels quite satisfied that at the end of a year or two she is quite competent to call herself a professed cook, and so she starts on her own responsibility and proves a ghastly failure. All cooks now complain of the impossibility of turning out good young cooks because they will not serve a sufficiently long apprenticeship. It may be a laudable desire on the part of servants to wish to rise at once to the top of their profession, but there is no modesty in their desire for promotion, and one cannot but feel it is part of what is one of the evils of the day—the revolt against restraint or control of any kind. If one looks back on the days of one's childhood, when servants came into the house as mere girls and almost spent their lives with their employers, rising by slow but sure steps to the upper ranks of their service, and whose one desire was never to leave except to start a home of their own, and contrast them with what we see now, how great is the change! Among a large and increasing class of servants in England such a feeling is unknown; and change after a year or two's service, which makes the servant class almost a nomadic one is the rule, and not the exception."

Dr. Robson Roose makes some sensible remarks on the Alcohol Question in the pages of the *New Review*. He says:—

"In everyday life, the practical questions with regard to alcohol are mainly two—viz.: Is its regular use in small quantities a universal necessity? and are such small quantities mischievous, salutary, or practically without effect? It is around these questions that controversy is always raging, and occasionally assuming volcanic activity. Only last autumn the columns of the leading journal were occupied for some weeks with letters on this subject. The impartial reader, after carefully perusing the various statements and opinions, many of them supported by facts of personal history, might say with Faust *und bin so klug als wie zuvor*, or with Sir Roger de Coverley, that much might be said on both sides of the question. Admitting, as we must, that alcohol is to some extent a food, we know that it is not taken for purposes of nutrition by the great mass of those who use it in moderate quantities. Persons who are honest and intelligent say that they take it because they like it: because it makes them feel more comfortable; because they enjoy their food better than when plain water is taken; because it helps them to sleep, &c. Now all these are perfectly valid reasons, and as such ought to be respected. They are not to be thrust aside by the assertion that such an auxiliary is a dangerous one, and that its good effects are much overrated, and, if not, are more than counterbalanced by others of an opposite character. Experience is unshaken by such assertions, and is strongly reinforced by the fact that alcohol, in some form or other, is in common use among civilised nations. It may well be asked, Is such experience to go for nothing?

"It may be granted without demur that to the healthy individual alcohol is by no means a necessary article of diet. The same statement holds good of tea and coffee. Pleasant and useful as these beverages may be, they are not indispensable; their introduction was a great innovation, and their use was long confined to the wealthy. They are stimulants, producing a decided effect upon the nervous system; they are mischievous when taken in excess, and some people abstain from them altogether. Speaking broadly, they supply that craving for stimulants which seems to be innate in the human system; and, because they do this, their use has become so common. No sweeping statement ought to be made as to the necessity for alcohol. In settling the question in any given case we have to consider the surrounding physical conditions of the individual; his work, whether mental or bodily, whether hard or moderate; his food, whether plentiful and suitable, or the reverse. For a man in good health, well fed, working with his limbs out of doors, alcohol is seldom, if ever, necessary, though it is often a very pleasant adjunct to one or more meals. A man who under such circumstances takes two or three glasses of beer daily is a temperate man, and ought to be regarded as such. I fully agree with Dr. Wilks that, in the class of society to which we belong, the beer-drinker is generally a temperate man; he seems content with his beverage, and to have no desire for anything stronger. No doubt many a man of this kind could get on almost, or quite, as well with water, but he prefers the beer, and therefore takes it. When great and sustained exertion is required experience show that alcohol is useless, if not mischievous. Soldiers endure fatigue and the extremes of heat and cold far better if alcohol be withheld. Dr. Parkes says that when debarred from spirits and fermented liquors men are not only better behaved, but are far more cheerful, are less irritable, and endure better the hardships and perils of war. It is a well-known fact that drinking is the great source of all crime and insubordination in the army, and that, although much improvement has been effected of late years, the belief is dominant in some quarters that ardent spirits impart strength and vigour to the human frame. The obstinacy with which men cling to this groundless belief would surprise those who attempted for the first time to combat this foolish prejudice. For persons compelled to lead a sedentary life a little alcohol taken with meals may be not only pleasant, but often extremely useful. It is found to help digestion, and to brace up and sustain flagging functions. In old age alcoholic stimulants are often very serviceable, especially in relieving sleeplessness, attended with slow and imperfect digestion. The late Dr. Carpenter, the most sensible and the most intelligent champion of the Temperance cause, found it desirable, in his old age, to take a little wine, and declared that he was the better for it."

SOCIETY.

The marriage arranged between Miss Murray, daughter of Mr. J. H. Murray, of 34, Ovington-square, and Mr. C. R. S. Payne, eldest son of Sir Salusbury Payne, of Blunham Hall, Sandy, will not take place.

The marriage arranged between Mr. Herbert Charles Jones, eldest son of Mr. Charles Edward Jones, of Russell Farm, Watford, Herts, and Mrs. Walter Coote, second daughter of the late Brice Frederick Bunny, Commissioner of Titles for Victoria, and formerly of Speen House, Newbury, Berks, will take place in London on the 3rd of August.

The marriage arranged between Miss Faudel-Phillips and Mr. Philip Henriques will take place on Wednesday, the 20th inst.

The marriage of Mr. Freeman Thomas to the Hon. Marie Brassey will take place at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, on Wednesday, the 20th inst., at one o'clock.

The marriage arranged between Mr. Edmund Tennyson D'Eyncourt and Miss Ruth Godson will take place at Holy Trinity, Sloane-street, on Wednesday, the 20th inst.

A marriage has been arranged, and will take place in September, between Mr. J. Studdert Mason, of Bellewood, Templemore, co. Tipperary, and Mabel Annie, youngest daughter of the late Rev. T. A. C. Firminger, Chaplain Bengal Establishment, and of Mrs. Firminger, of Went House, Uley, Dursley.

Also between Alice Mary, daughter of the late Hon. George Wentworth Fitzwilliam, and Arthur, eldest son of Charles W. Williams Wynn, of Coed-y-maen, Welshpool, and private secretary to Viscount Cross.

Also between the Hon. Thomas Dundas, youngest brother of the Earl of Zetland, and Maud, youngest daughter of the late Hon. George Wentworth Fitzwilliam.

Also between Walter Edwin, youngest son of the late Mr. James Ogilvy Fairlie, of Coodham, Ayrshire, and Jessie, fifth daughter of the late Mr. E. Crompton Potter and Mrs. Potter, 24, Chapel-Street, Belgrave-square.

Also between Charles, eldest son of the late Mr. Robert Drummond, and Caroline, eldest daughter of Colonel and Lady Theresa Boyle.

The marriage of the Rev. Alfred Peachy Cox to Miss Louisa Vansittart, daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Vansittart, formerly of the Coldstream Guards, and of Mrs. Robert Vansittart, of 6, Lancaster-street, took place on the 23rd ult. at St. James's Church, Sussex-gardens. The bridesmaids wore costumes of pink gauze, trimmed with lace, and their large hats were ornamented with roses; each carried a bouquet of pink roses and wore a pearl brooch, the gift of the bridegroom. The bride was attired in a dress of rich cream brocade, tastefully trimmed with Honiton lace, and wore a veil of the same lace over a wreath of orange blossoms, the former being fastened by diamond ornaments, and carried a choice bouquet of white exotics, the gift of the bridegroom. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Walter Abbott, vicar of the parish, assisted by the Rev. Canon Christopher. Among those present at the ceremony were Captain and Mrs. Vansittart, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Campbell Miss Cox and Miss Adelaide Cox, Colonel and Mrs. Charles Long, Miss Vansittart and Miss Georgina Vansittart, Hon. Miss Mostyn, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Vansittart, Sir James and Lady Buchanan, Colonel and Mrs. Hamilton Campbell, Mr. Arthur Vansittart Campbell, Sir Leopold and Lady M'Clintock, Lord and Lady Sandford, Professor and Mrs. Max Muller, Mrs. Arthur Drummond, General and Mrs. Maxwell Campbell, General and Mrs. Dodson, &c. The bridal party afterwards reassembled at the residence of the bride's mother in Lancaster-gate, Hyde-park, where she welcomed the wedding guests at a reception; and in the course of the afternoon the newly wedded pair left for Holmwood, Dorking, *en route* for the north. The bride departed in a costume of blue crêpon, trimmed with blue velvet and gold braid, and black hat, ornamented to match.

The marriage of Miss Blanche Mary Branston, eldest daughter of County Councillor J. Gilstrap Branston, J.P., of Winthorpe Grange, to Mr. John Mowbray Watson, eldest son of Mr. Anthony Watson, of Inverleith-place, Edinburgh, took place recently. The bride wore a white satin gown and Court train of rich white broché. The six bridesmaids wore dresses of Japanese silk, tastefully arranged with tan-coloured Surah trimmings of lace and ribbon. The officiating clergy were the Rev. Frank Parnell, M.A., rector of Oxtead, Surrey (uncle of the bride), the Rev. S. J. Stone, M.A., rector of All Hallows, London-wall, London, and the Rev. W. C. Leeper, M.A., curate-in-charge of Winthorpe. The At home at the Grange was largely attended, and the bride and bridegroom left for London, *en route* for the Engadine for the honeymoon.

The eldest and third daughters of Mr. William Rose Holden, of Victoria Park, Dover, were married at St. Mary's Church, Dover, Miss Henrietta Eveleigh Holden to Mr. Matthew Talbot Baines, of Bawtry Hall, Yorkshire, and Miss Mary Rose Holden to Captain Donald Bremner, Royal Artillery, second son of the late Mr. David Bremner, of Glasgow. Each bride had four bridesmaids and a train-bearer. The former wore white satin dresses, the slightly-trained skirts being edged with a satin ruche; the bodices were made with large puffed sleeves and Empire sashes, white lace being arranged as capes round the shoulders. Their large white picture hats were trimmed with ostrich plumes and lace. Miss Holden's bridesmaids carried bouquets of Maréchal Niel roses tied with broad satin streamers, and wore pearl-lace brooches, the gift of her bridegroom; while Miss Mary Holden's attendants carried bouquets of pale pink roses, tied with satin ribbons to match, and wearing gold brooches of miniature artillery cannon, with pearls for shots, the gifts of Captain Bremner. The little train-bearers wore white satin Louis XIV. costumes, the coat and waistcoat being embroidered in silver, large felt picture hats ornamented with ostrich feathers, and one wore a button-hole of Maréchal Neil roses, and the other a similar one in pink roses. The brides were dressed alke in oyster white satin, the bodice trimmed with crêpe de Chine, orange blossoms, and white heather, the trains falling from the shoulders being of handsome white satin brocade. Wreaths of orange blossoms were worn, covered by tulle veils, fastened by diamond ornaments, and they carried bouquets of white flowers, the gift of the bridegrooms. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. David Helville, D.D., Canon of Worcester Cathedral, assisted by the Rev. Oswald M. Holden, B.C.L., M.A., vicar of Gaileycum-Hatherton, and the Rev. Canon Puckle, M.A., vicar of St. Mary's, Dover. A reception was afterwards held at Victoria Park, Dover, the residence of the father of the brides. The newly-wedded pairs left later for London, *en route* for the North, the brides wearing similar tailor-made costumes of fawn tweed, with long fawn cloaks to match, and large black picture hats.

The marriage of Mr. Frank W. Perry, second son of the late Mr. William James Perry, of Ardlin, co. Dublin, and Miss Hester Ruttledge, eldest daughter of Mr. Francis Ruttledge, of Coolbawn Cottage, co. Wexford, took place on the 22nd ult. at Killanne Church, co. Wexford. The bride wore a dress of oyster duchesse satin, made Princesse style, and trimmed with handsome Brussels lace; she wore a Brussels lace veil, the gift of her mother. The bridesmaids wore Empire dresses of ivory spotted gaze de soie over cream silk, with large cream Leghorn hats, trimmed with pink roses and ribbon; they carried shower bouquets of pink roses, and wore thick gold rings prettily inscribed, which, with the bouquets, were the gifts of the bridegroom. The Rev. Canon Blacker officiated, assisted by the Rev. Canon Cooper, rector of Killanne. After the wedding a numerously attended reception was held at Coolbawn, and in the course of the afternoon the new-married couple left for Kingstown, *en route* for Cornwall. The bride's travelling-dress was a bronze silk, edged with brown velvet, and trimmed with blue ribbon and shot chiffon; hat to match.

The marriage of Captain Charles Turner, 49th Royal Berkshire Regiment, eldest son of the late Mr. Robert Turner, of Bishopsfield, Notts, with Miss Jane Elizabeth Buller, only daughter of Vice-Admiral and Mrs. Alexander Buller, of Erle Hall, Plympton, Devon, was celebrated on Tuesday week, at St. Maurice's Church, Plympton, Devon. The bride wore a petticoat of white corded silk, the bodice being trimmed with Honiton lace, and the Court train of satin with chiffon and bunches of orange blossoms. She wore a wreath of orange blossoms in her hair, covered by a Honiton lace veil, fastened with a diamond brooch, the gift of the bridegroom, and her other ornaments included a gold chain and diamond necklace, also the bridegroom's gift, and two diamond stars, the present of the officers of the Mediterranean Fleet, and she carried a bouquet of choice white flowers. Masters Herbert Cecil and Edward Maxwell Buller, brothers of the bride, acted as pages, wearing white sailor costumes, trimmed with navy blue. The bridesmaids were attired in dresses of white Surah, trimmed with white satin and cream lace, and their white crinoline hats were ornamented with sprays of pink roses. The bridegroom presented each with a shower bouquet of pink roses tied with ribbons to match, and a gold brooch with the badge of the 49th Regiment in diamonds. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Henry T. Hole, rector of the parish, assisted by the Rev. Richard Buller, rector of Marsden, Yorkshire, the service being fully choral. A reception was afterwards held by the bride's mother. Among the company present were Mrs. and Miss Tritton, Mr. and Mrs. Tritton, Misses Tritton, Mrs. Legh Phillipps, and the Misses Turner, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Duberly, Capt. and Mrs. George Turner, Rev. Richard Buller, Mr. and Mrs. Chapell-Hodge, and the Misses Chapell-Hodge, Mr. and Mrs. Bradshaw and Miss Bradshaw, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Thornton, Sir Henry and Lady Waring, Admiral and Mrs. Grant, Admiral and Miss Napier, Mr. and Mrs. Radcliffe, Dowager Lady Trelawney, Mr. R. E. Buller, Mr. F. N. W. Buller, and many others. In the course of the day the newly-married pair left for the honeymoon. The bride went away in a costume of pale blue crépon, trimmed with blue velvet to match, and cream guipure lace; large brown hat ornamented with pale blue feathers and lace.

The marriage of Mr. H. Wilfrid Killigrew Wait, eldest son of Mr. W. Killigrew Wait, of St. Vincent's Hall, Clifton, to Gertrude Norma, youngest daughter of the Rev. Edward Sturges, rector of Wokingham, was celebrated on the 21st ult., at the parish church, Wokingham. The bridesmaids wore dresses of cream Bengaline, made with pink and green Empire sashes, and hats of fine black straw, ornamented with pale green velvet and pink feathers. The two children were dressed in pale green Liberty silk dresses and Joshua Reynolds' caps. The bridegroom presented each with a small pearl brooch in the form of a wreath of flowers. The bride wore a dress of ivory brocade, trimmed with old Honiton lace. The train, which fell from the shoulders, was of ivory satin, trimmed with Honiton lace, and she wore a wreath of white heather in her hair, and a tulle veil fastened by a diamond star, the gift of the bridegroom. Mrs. Sturges, mother of the bride, was attired in black broché, trimmed with mauve and some old lace; Mrs. Burrow Hill, sister of the bride, was in green and vieux rose striped grenadine; Mrs. Cornish, another sister of the bride, wore black grenadine, with trimmings of pale green velvet and jet; Mrs. Edward Sturges, pink foulard, trimmed with black lace and velvet. The Archdeacon of Berks performed the marriage rite, assisted by the Rev. Arthur Sturges, uncle of the bride, and the Rev. Stephen Cornish, her brother-in-law. A reception was afterwards held by the bride's parents, and later in the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. H. Wilfrid Killigrew Wait left to spend the honeymoon in the Austrian Tyrol. The bride went away in a costume of fawn-coloured cloth, trimmed with pale blue, and large hat, ornamented to match.

The marriage of Mr. H. J. Barrett, of Langford Park, Essex, with the Lady Maud Lambart, second daughter of the Earl and Countess of Cavan, was solemnised on the 25th ult. in Wheathampstead Church, St. Alban's, Herts. The day commenced with early Communion, and the marriage ceremony took place at one o'clock. The bridegroom was attended by his nephew, Mr. Barrett, as best man, and there were eight bridesmaids. The bride wore a dress of white brocaded satin, and a veil of Royal Brussels lace (which was worn by her mother at her own wedding), her jewels included a diamond tiara and brooch and a pearl and diamond bracelet. Her bouquet was composed of white orchids and stephanotis. The bridesmaids were dressed in white crêpe de Chine trimmed with pink, and hats to match, ornamented with pink roses. The bridegroom presented each with a gold chain bracelet with gold padlock and key, and a bouquet of pink roses. The Countess of Cavan, mother of the bride, wore a dress of brocaded shot satin, slashed with green, and panels of light green silk; bonnet with feathers and osprey to match. The Rev. Canon Davys, rector of Wheathampstead, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Herbert Athill, Rector of Digswell, Herts, the Earl of Cavan giving his daughter away. The service was choral. The Earl and Countess of Cavan afterwards welcomed the bridal party at Wheathampstead House at the reception. Later in the day Mr. and Lady Maud Barrett left for Brighton. The bride travelled in a brown costume, and hat to match.

The Countess of Ilchester had a large reception at Holland House on the 22nd ult.,

some fifteen hundred guests being present, including his Royal Highness the Duke of Aosta and his Highness the Maharajah Gaekwar of Baroda. The Blue Hungarian Band played on the lawn, and a troop of Spanish minstrels performed in another part of the grounds. The Duchess of Roxburghe wore pale blue muslin covered in a design of festoons of pale pink flowers; the Duchess of Leeds was in black; the Countess of Listowel, cream foulard trimmed with turquoise blue silk bows and cream lace; Countess Deym, shot apple-green and black striped silk, with lace pelerine and yoke of puce coloured velvet; Lady Randolph Churchill, pale blue silk with floral stripes, and a black hat; Countess Powis, a pale blue striped dress trimmed with a pink ruche and sash, lace pelerine, and pink and blue bonnet; Miss Borthwick was in pale pink trimmed with black and hat to match; Isabella, Countess of Wilton, petunia Bengaline, and bonnet to harmonise; Mrs. Howard Vincent, smoke grey velvet with Empire bodice and violet velvet epaulettes; the Countess of Caledon, green silk, with bonnet to match, the strings being fastened by an Irish harp brooch set with diamonds; Hon. Mrs. Grosvenor, dove coloured silk; Mrs. Val Prinsep, black crépon, the bodice trimmed with jet and chiffon, and black moiré Empire sash; Lady Hathfield, pale blue silk, veiled with black Brussels lace, with bonnet *en suite*; the Marchioness of Granby, pale green striped silk, with Empire bodice; Lady Grisell Ogilvy, ficelle crépon, with picture hat of white straw; Lady Millais, petunia coloured silk, with sleeves and skirt trimmed with velvet of the same shade.

Lady Wimborne's ball last week was very largely attended, the company including the Duke of Aosta, the Duke and Duchess of Newcastle, the Duke and Duchess of Athole and Lady Dorothea Stewart Murray, the Marquis and Marchioness of Bath and Lady Katherine Thynne, Maria Marchioness of Ailesbury, the Marquis of Blandford, the Earl and Countess of Mayo, Count Kinsky, Count Bertarelli, Lord and Lady Leconfield and the Hon. Miss Wyndham, Lord Rendlesham and the Hon. Miss Thellusson, Lord and Lady Magheramorne and Lady M. Ashley, Lord and Lady Rodney, Lord Brackley, Lord Kenyon, Mr. and Lady Sarah Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Leopold de Rothschild, Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Leigh, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, Miss Du Cane, Mr. Montagu Guest, Mr. Smith, Mr. Foley, Mr. Loder, Mr. Baillie, Mr. Wombwell, and Mr. Montgomery. Dancing began at eleven o'clock to the Blue Hungarian Band. The Duchess of Portland was in white satin, trimmed with pearl embroidery, and a pale blue velvet sash, her jewels including several strings of pearls arranged on the bodice, and magnificent diamond coronet and necklace. The Duchess of Montrose wore cream satin, embroidered in gold; the Marchioness of Blandford, pale grey and silver brocade; Isabella Countess of Wilton, blue brocade trimmed with crystal sequins; Lady Alington, white satin; Lady William Nevill, grey satin veiled with black net, blue velvet sleeves, and pink trimmings, pearl and diamond coronet and other ornaments; Lady Borthwick, pale blue satin and crêpe de Chine trimmed with gold galon; Miss Graham, pink satin; Mdme. de Staal, white brocade with mauve trimmings, and mauve feathers in the hair; Mrs. Leopold de Rothschild, white satin, worked down the narrow seams in shades of heliotrope; the bodice was trimmed with satin to match the embroidery, and she wore a diamond collet necklace round the throat, and a diamond and pearl coronet round the coils of her hair, which is always dressed low; the Duchess of Roxburghe, white satin, with full sleeves of yellow velvet, and narrow velvet ribbon tied in bows and ends round the edge of the skirt; Lady Skelmersdale, pale blue silk and old lace, diamond coronet and pearl necklace; Lady De Ramsay, pale blue satin and brocade trimmed with white lace, and beautiful jewels; Countess Howe, pale amber satin; Mrs. Cornwallis West, primrose satin embroidered in gold, with a bright scarlet ruche round the skirt, a scarlet sash, and a bow of the same hue in the hair, with a diamond spray and tiara; Lady Claud Hamilton, light blue silk, with velvet trimmings and diamond ornaments. Lady Sarah Wilson, white striped satin and moiré, with sleeves of the palest blue velvet, and a blue ribbon in the hair; on leaving her ladyship donned a picturesque rose-coloured satin cloak trimmed with jet.

Col. Platt and the Officers 4th Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers gave a brilliant ball recently at the Victoria Drill Hall, Carnarvon. The arrangements were successfully carried out by a committee of the officers. The excellent music was supplied by Eyton's string band. Supper was served in a prettily-decorated marquee, and the *menu* was a most *recherché* one. The ball was pronounced perfect in every way, and a number of pretty gowns were worn. Mrs. Assheton-Smith wore black, with beautiful diamonds; Mrs. Greaves grey brocade and velvet. Mrs. C. E. J. Owen's gown of black and white was much admired, and she wore lovely diamonds. Mrs. Platt was in black, and her daughter wore a pretty white gown trimmed with roses. An empire gown of white satin was worn by Mrs. Lloyd Evans, and she carried a bouquet of pink roses. Mrs. R. M. Greaves looked handsome in lime-green silk and black lace. Miss Vaughan was in black and white, and Miss Mayhew wore grey satin and yellow. The Misses Priestley, in yellow, carried bouquets of mauve orchids. Miss Reynolds had a posy of pink carnations and a black and green gown.

An enjoyable afternoon At home was given at Gartney Barracks on the 23rd ult. by Colonel Suther and Officers Royal Marine Artillery. Owing to the heavy showers tennis was abandoned, and the guests adjourned to the spacious mess room, where dancing was kept up with great spirit, the excellent band of the corps occupying the orchestra. Mrs. Suther wore an effective dark blue costume, trimmed with cream; Miss Suther was also in dark blue, with white silk blouse spotted with blue, and a very becoming large hat. Mrs. Burnet-Hall had a charming fawn costume, trimmed with green and guipure lace, and pretty hat with pink roses. Mrs. Gunning Campbell wore black, with blouse bodice of orange and black silk; Lady Willis, a stylish black costume, with epaulettes of lace and jet. The Hon. Mrs. Foley-Vereker wore a pretty blue costume.

Mrs. Mackay gave an evening party on the 25th ult., at her beautiful house in Carlton House-Terrace. The hall was arranged as a buffet, and immediately upon entering one's attention was drawn to the magnificent clusters of dark red roses, which were placed at intervals down the table. An orchestra was stationed in the marble hall at the foot of the marble staircase. The hostess, who was dressed in apricot brocade, draped with gold and white gauze, received her guests at the head of the staircase. She wore no jewellery, with the exception of some large single stone diamond earrings. The reception rooms, with their beautiful tapestries and works of art, were much admired. The guests were not very numerous, not more than about 250, so there was no unpleasant crush during any part of the evening. Lady Seymour was in black, with diamond ornaments in her hair and upon the bodice. Her daughter wore white, with pale green velvet sleeves. Mrs. Frederick Beer wore a white gown, with large sleeves of pale pink velvet, the top of the bodice draped with the same; her necklace and ornaments were of diamonds; in the front of her hair, almost in the centre of the forehead, was placed a large diamond bee. Mrs. Staniforth wore scarlet brocaded silk, trimmed with black lace; and her daughter was in white. Lady Glover wore white satin, with large sleeves of pink gauze; Mrs. Hoare wore dark green velvet, with diamond ornaments; and Mrs. Robson-Roose was also attired in this verdant hue, of a lighter shade, and trimmed with feathers of the same colour. Prince Malcom Khan was present with his daughter, Princess Saltane Malcom, who wore a gown of réséda green moiré silk, trimmed with white lace. Lady Dallas wore pale blue brocaded satin, with long falling sleeves of white lace.

The Royal Caledonian fancy dress ball, for the benefit of the Royal Caledonian Asylum and the Royal Scottish Hospital, which was held last week at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, has not been so well attended for many years. The ball is given under the patronage of Her Majesty and other members of the Royal family, and the list of ladies patronesses, members of noble Scottish families, was a long one. Shortly before eleven o'clock the Duke of Athole, president and treasurer of the ball, entered the ballroom, followed by the ladies patronesses present—viz., the Duchess of Roxburghe, the Marchioness of Tweeddale, Julia Marchioness of Tweeddale, the Marchioness of Lansdowne, Countess Percy, &c. A few minutes afterwards the Duke of Athole's piper announced the approach of the Duchess of Athole's procession, headed by her Grace, who, instead of a Highland quadrille, organised, this year, six eightsome reels, the gentlemen taking part wearing Highland costume, and the ladies white satin dresses, with their tartans fastened on one shoulder and tied under the arm on the opposite side; the skirts were edged with a narrow gathered frill headed with sprigs of the badge of each lady's clan, some of which was worn in the hair. Next came the Hon. Mrs. Hallyburton, with her procession of lancers. The gentlemen wore the uniforms of their respective regiments, and the ladies were attired as Vivandières in short dresses of white satin with four rows of gold braid round the hem. The Duchess of Athole was in deep blue velvet and satin, with a scarf of her tartan, and diamond ornaments. The Marchioness of Lansdowne wore black satin and velvet, which threw up a magnificent diamond spray worn in the front of the bodice, and the Order of the Crown of India fastened on the left side; her Ladyship had several rows of pearls round her throat, and a diamond tiara and sprays in her hair. The Countess of Crawford was in white satin sparkling with crystal, and wore a splendid diamond coronet and necklace; Viscountess Wolseley, black satin, relieved with a little mauve; the Hon. Mrs. Hallyburton Campbell, maize brocade and diamonds; the Marchioness of Tweeddale, cream brocade and old lace, diamond coronet and necklace, and diamond and emerald ornaments; the Countess of Lathom, black brocade and lace; Countess Percy, mauve brocade and Bengaline; Lady Forbes, pale grey satin and white lace, with diamond ornaments; the Countess of Selkirk, black, with diamond tiara and comb; Mrs. Forbes, black brocade, and a pearl and diamond tiara and ornaments; Lady Burton, pale amber silk, slightly trimmed with blue; Lady Emily FitzMaurice was in white corded velvet, the Empire bodice having a pale pink velvet sash and trimmings of lace, a single row of pearls was worn round the throat, and small diamond ornaments in the hair. Baroness Von Roemer, pale green satin, with pale pink puffed sleeves, and handsome diamond ornaments in the hair and on the bodice; Baroness d'Estournelles was in pale blue and gold tinsel brocade, the front of satin being trimmed at the foot with festoons of lace, old lace on the bodice, and turquoise and diamond ornaments. Lady Clark wore palest pink satin, trimmed with rose point lace, the petticoat and train edged with a ruche of velvet; her jewels were a diamond necklace and pendant star, and a diamond coronet in the hair; her daughters were in the palest yellow silk. Lady Glover wore white brocade, trimmed with lace and jewelled passementerie, and large pale blue velvet Empire sleeves, diamond necklace and ornaments; Viscountess Southwell was in black, and her daughter wore cream Bengaline, with silver belt and lace trimmings; Lady Ferguson wore canary-coloured satin, edged with a narrow ruche, and ornamented with silver passementerie and old lace, and her jewels were diamonds; Hon. Mrs. Lindsay, smoke-grey brocade, with festoons of black lace caught with plumes of grey ostrich feather tips, a bow of green velvet ribbon being arranged in the hair, with diamond ornaments; the Hons. Gladys and Nest Rice were attired alike in white satin, trimmed with lace, and white ostrich feathers; Hon. Mrs. Lyon, black silk and lace, her jewels were emeralds and diamonds; Hon. Mrs. Wood wore flame-coloured satin, with sleeves of velvet of a lighter shade, the whole being trimmed with silver passementerie, and she wore a diamond necklace; the Hon. Miss Hanbury was in guipure over silk, with pink satin ribbon trimmings, and diamond ornaments; Lady Katherine Morgan, in sea-green embroidered lisse over silk, with Watteau bow fastened at the back; Mrs. Edward Sassoon, pale blue brocade, with jewelled Empire belt and trimmings of chiffon, her jewels including a diamond necklace, sprays of diamonds fastened on the bodice, and diamonds in the hair, with an aigrette; Mrs. de Pinto, white satin and lace, and diamond ornaments; Mrs. Collyer Fergusson, white satin trimmed with old lace, diamond ornaments on bodice, and pearl and diamond tiara. There was such a large attendance that both ballrooms were used when dancing became general. At half-past eleven the senior boys and girls of the Caledonian Asylum, headed by the pipers of the school, marched round the ballroom, the Duke of Athole leading the way, followed by the secretary, Mr. Inglis. The ball was in every respect a great success, all the arrangements, including a first-rate supper, being admirably carried out.

The marriage of Mr. Robert Love, of Castle warden Straffan, co. Kildare, with Edith Kathleen, only daughter of Mr. William Pallin, of Athgarvan Lodge, co. Kildare, was celebrated on the 8th ult. at Moorefield Church. The bride wore a handsome white Bengaline gown, trimmed with lace and orange blossoms. After the ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. D. H. O'Connor, Mr. and Mrs. Pallin entertained a large circle of friends at a *déjeuner* at Athgarvan Lodge, and in the afternoon the bridal pair left for the Lakes of Killarney.

The Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Benson gave their second garden party at Lambeth Palace on Saturday, July 2, and, in spite of the rival attraction of the garden party at Fulham Palace, the beautiful grounds were crowded with guests. The interesting approach to the palace was lined with carriages from four till seven o'clock; the palace itself was open to the guests to inspect its treasures of art and history; and the old corridors, library, and rooms were crowded with brightly-dressed ladies and their cavaliers. Tea was served in the old guardroom, and the band of the L Division Metropolitan Police performed a selection of music throughout the afternoon. The Archbishop and Mrs. Benson received their guests upon the lawn, and among the numerous arrivals were the Greek Minister, the Chinese Minister (in his national costume), the Siamese Minister, the Duchess of Leeds and the Ladies Osborne. Count and Countess de Lalaing (the latter in a most becoming light costume), the Dowager Duchess of Marlborough, Earl Percy and the Ladies Percy, the Earl of Meath, the Countess of Longford and Lady Kathleen Pakenham, Viscount Hardinge and the Hon. Miss Hardinge, several high dignitaries of the Church, including the Bishop of Rochester, the Bishop of Newark, the Bishop of Newcastle and Mrs. Wilberforce, &c., Lord and Lady Gilbert Kennedy, Lady Aberdare and her daughters the Hon. Misses Bruce, Lord and Lady Colchester, Sir Gerald and Lady Dalton Fitzgerald, and very many others. The clerical element was in the ascendant, members of the Church having come from all parts of the country to attend the function. The gardens have never looked more charming than just now, the quantities of brilliant flower beds and the old trees forming a picturesque setting to the interesting and historical old palace.

The Bishop of London and Mrs. Temple were At home at Fulham Palace, on the 2nd inst., to a large number of guests. During the afternoon the avenue leading to the old courtyard was gay with equipages. The carriages entered the courtyard, in the centre of which is a fountain; the guests then passed through the house (leaving their visiting cards upon a table in the hall), and proceeded to the garden, where the Bishop of London and Mrs. Temple received their friends. A band of musicians performed a programme upon the lawn, and tables were placed in different parts of the garden for refreshments, ices, fruits, and cooling beverages being served out of doors; tea and coffee were obtainable in the house. There were an unusually large number of children, probably the youthful friends and companions of the Bishop's children, and they seemed thoroughly to enjoy themselves in various ways upon the lawns. Many of the guests wandered through the gardens, admiring the beautiful old trees, shrubberies, and old fashioned walks, and, the weather being quite perfect, the gardens were to be seen at their best. A great many ladies, including the hostess, wore black, either grenadines, foulard, or some material of gossamer texture; the long dresses and Empire sashes were very popular. Countess Wydenbrück's dress, of apricot silk, trimmed with deep flounces of white Valenciennes lace, was much admired. Her little gold bonnet was trimmed with tufts of white feathers, her parasol was *en suite*. Lady Shornton, in black, was among the earlier arrivals. Lady Macartney was in white silk, with a large white hat, trimmed with white feathers. Maria Marchioness of Ailesbury was in black silk. A great many of the guests remained until past seven o'clock, and spent a most enjoyable afternoon.

CHIT CHAT.

Physicians famous for diagnosis take care to glance at the finger nails of a patient whose pulse they are feeling for the first time. A stout, horn-like nail augurs well for the person's constitution. No matter if it be ever so dirty or ever so inelegantly splayed or bitten; if it be thick and not to be pared without an effort, it is sure to be fed by plenty of good blood. On the contrary, thin, transparent nails signify delicacy of constitution.

A new system has been designed for killing whales. The harpoon, connected with a dynamo-electric machine, no sooners enters the huge fish than the current is turned on. The whale then receives some 720 shocks in a minute, so severe as to render it unconscious.

A curious book, in which the text is neither written nor printed, but woven, has lately been published at Lyons. It is made of silk.

The scientific expedition which the Imperial Russian Geographical Society has decided to send to the north-eastern provinces of China, under the command of M. Potanine, is already completely fitted out, and will leave St. Petersburg towards the end of this month.

Some odd but interesting facts are disclosed in the Indian census returns as to the religions of the people. Out of the total population 287,000,000 "Hindooism" claims 207,500,000, but this is a loose term—meaning, it has been said, "any religion which is not Mohamedan." Nature worship is very common among the ruder tribes. Islam counts for 57,000,000, Buddhism 7,000,000, and Christianity only for 2,250,000. There are 17,180 Jews, and the Parsees amount in all to 89,887. The Theists, Agnostics, Atheists, and the like are only 289 all told. Brahmos, or professors of reformed Hindooism, count only for 4,501, of whom nearly all are in Bengal. The newly-founded title of Aryan is borne by nearly 40,000, chiefly in the Punjaub and the North-West Provinces.

Queen Victoria is the first English sovereign who has lived to see her great grandchildren, of whom one, the baby daughter of the Duchess of Fife, is fourth in the order of succession to the Crown. No provision has ever been made in regard to the precedence of the sovereign's great grandchildren, and consequently were the Duke of Cumberland, who is a great grandson of George III., to take his seat in the House of Lords, he would have to sit as an ordinary duke according to the date of his peerage. Twenty-two dukes, exclusive of the Royal dukes, and the two Archbishops would rightfully take precedence of the Duke of Cumberland, and only five, Wellington, Sutherland, Abercorn, Westminster, and Fife, follow him.

Entomologists have this year been much concerned with the influences of temperature on the development of insect life. The days have recently been brilliantly sunshiny and hot, but there has seldom been a night without a frost. In consequence, butterflies have been very plentiful, and moths comparatively scarce. Easterly winds, with frosts at night, are injurious to moths, but do not appear to affect butterflies so long as there is plenty of sunshine and blue sky.

The total number of licensees under the Vivisection Act in 1891 was 152, of whom forty-three, however, made no experiments. There were fifty-nine licensed places in forty different institutions in England and Scotland. It is further stated in the report that licences and certificates are only granted and allowed upon the recommendation of persons of high scientific standing. The total number of experiments performed in 1891 was 2,661, of which 875 were performed under license alone, the remainder being performed under certificates. In 986 experiments the animals operated upon suffered no pain, complete anæsthesia being maintained from the beginning until the end, when the animal was killed. In other cases the animals were anæsthetised during the operation, but were allowed to recover. In these cases the animals were operated upon with as much care as human beings. In the bulk of the cases the operations were very simple. Among the diseases the causation of and protection from which occupied the attention of the licensees during 1891 were tubercle, cholera, cancer, erysipelas, diphtheria, influenza, rabies, glanders, distemper, blood-poisoning, lead-poisoning, goitre, and cretinism.

The Academy of Sciences at Berlin has conferred one of the first four Helmholtz gold medals upon Lord Kelvin, President of the Royal Society.

The Supreme Council of the Protestant Church of Prussia has suggested to the ecclesiastical authorities throughout the country the advisability of keeping the churches open on week-days as well as Sundays, at least when the evening bells are rung, in order, if possible, to hold a brief and simple service at that time, as is done in Roman Catholic churches. Eighteen new Protestant churches are about to be built in Berlin; and other steps are in contemplation by which it is hoped to increase the efficiency of existing Protestant institutions.

At a recent meeting of the Medical Society of London, Sir James Crichton Browne, F.R.S., expressed his opinion that the difference between the intellects of men and women was real, not seeming, and deeply founded on the structure of the brain. He showed amongst other matters, that the average female brain is lighter than the average male brain, and would still be so were women as large and heavy as men. Moveover the specific gravity of the grey substance of the male brain is higher than that of the female, while the specific gravity of the white substance is the same in both. While the total supply of blood to the brain is much the same in men and women (allowing for the comparative poverty of female blood in corpuscles), the distribution of the blood is different, the larger part going to the front of the male brain, and to the back of the female brain. The front is the seat of cognition, volition, and the ideo-motor processes, while the back is mainly concerned in the discharge of sensory functions. These anatomical considerations bear out the conclusions of such great writers as Milton and Thackeray, and, assuming them to be accurate, Sir James Crichton Browne uttered a warning against the present tendency to over-educate women by instructing them like men.

Amongst the heavily-rated parishes of London are Rotherhithe, 6s. 4d. in the pound; Hammersmith, 6s. 3d.; Greenwich, 6s. 8d.; St. Paul, Shadwell, 6s. 7d.; All Saints, Poplar, 6s. 11d.; Bromley, St. Leonard, 7s. 3d.; St. Mary, Bow, 6s. 11d.; Mile-end, 6s. 11d.; and St. Katharine, Whitechapel, 7s. 6½d. Against these returns many of the small City parishes have rates under 2s.; St. James, Westminster, has 4s. 2d.; St. George, Hanover-square, 4s. 5½d.; St. Marylebone, 4s. 3d.; and Woolwich 3s. 6d.

When the King of Roumania was entertained by Her Majesty there was on the dinner table a punch-bowl and ladle which cost George IV. 10,000 guineas.

From the statistics presented at the Friends' yearly meeting, held in London, it appears there are now 340 meetings in this country, with 16,102 members, and 6,185 habitual attenders of meetings who are not yet in membership, making a total of 22,287 Friends in this country—a gain of 221 over last year.

It is said that the idea of founding a University in Dublin originated with Pope Clement V., who, in 1312, at the solicitation of Archbishop Loch, issued a bull for the establishment of a University school, or *studium generale*, in Dublin. The premature death of the Archbishop prevented the project from being carried out; but in 1320 Alexander de Bicknor, his successor, founded such a school or college in St. Patrick's Cathedral. This school had a short life, and it was not until the 3rd of March, 1591, that Royal letters patent were issued, authorising the foundation of a college, to be "the mother of a University," under the invocation of the Holy Trinity.

Over £850 has been subscribed in the diocese of Norwich for the erection of a new episcopal throne for the Bishop in Norwich Cathedral. The Prince of Wales is among the contributors.

According to a writer, rather more than sixty-nine persons in every 100 in London are living in comfort, while rather more than thirty in every 100 are living in poverty. Of these, twenty-two are poor, and seven very poor, while not quite one person in every 100 belongs to the "lowest classes."

St. Martin's, Canterbury, is said to be the oldest church in England; it was built about 360 A.D.

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